Daily Report

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FBIS-NES-89-229 *30 November 1989*

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Palestinian Affairs

'Arafat's Message to UN Palestine Commission

JN2911201289 Sanaa Voice of Palestine in Arabic 1605 GMT 29 Nov 89

["Text" of message by Yasir 'Arafat, also identified by his nom de guerre Abu-'Ammar, president of the "State of Palestine," to Absa Claudialo, chairwoman of the UN Commission on the Palestinian People's Exercise of Their Inalienable Rights; date not given]

[Text] Your Excellency sister Absa Claudialo, chairwoman of the UN Commission on the Palestinian People's Exercise of Their Inalienable Rights; dear sisters and brothers; ladies and gentlemen: I salute you with greetings of the revolution.

On the occasion of your annual celebrations marking the International Day of Solidarity With the Palestinian People, it pleases me to express to you all, on behalf of the Palestinian Government and people, on behalf of my brothers within the PLO Executive Committee, and in my person, our deep thanks and heartfelt appreciation for your firm solidarity with the just struggle being waged by our Palestinian people to regain their inalienable national rights, including their right to repatriation, to self-determination, and to the establishment of their independent state.

I would like to take this opportunity to extend my deep thanks to UN Secretary General Javier Perez de Cuellar for the continuous efforts that he has been making to end our people's suffering and agonies and to enable them to attain their freedom and independence. I would also like to express the high esteem in which we hold the UN's Palestine Commission for the effective role that it is playing to support and back our people's just struggle and their national cause. Allow me also to extend my deep thanks to sister Absa Claudialo for her effective management of the UN Commission on the Palestinian People's Exercise of Their Inalienable Rights and also for the valuable and constructive efforts she has been making to enable our people to regain and exercise their legitimate national rights.

Mrs Chairwoman, ladies and gentlemen: Your solidarity meeting is being held today after our Palestinian people celebrated the first anniversary marking the independence declaration of the State of Palestine on 15 November. This declaration, as well as the historic resolutions of the 19th session of the Palestine National Council [PNC] came about as one of the most practical political results of the sweeping intifadah being staged by our people—the intifadah, which in 10 days will enter its third year stronger and more powerful in its confrontation of the Israeli occupation authorities. On the first anniversary of the proclamation of Palestinian independence, the international community has expressed, just as you are doing right now, its solidarity with and support for the just struggle being waged by our people under the PLO, their sole legitimate representative, to terminate the Israeli occupation and turn the independence declaration into reality on the ground through the establishment of the independent Palestinian state on Palestinian soil.

Dear sisters and brothers: This is what we announced in the Palestinian peace initiative endorsed by our PNC in Algiers 1 year ago. I also announced this initiative in my Geneva address in December. Our objective behind launching this initiative was to contribute effectively toward the advancement of the peace process in the region on the basis of the resolutions of international legitimacy; that is, the UN resolutions, including Resolutions No 242 and 338, and also on the basis of our Palestinian people's right to self-determination. In our initiative, we accepted the UN resolutions which stipulate that the best way to achieve the desired peace is to convene an international Middle East peace conference under UN auspices and with the participation of the five permanent members of the UN Security Council and all parties to the regional conflict, including the PLO and the Israeli Government which must attend such a gathering on an equal footing.

This initiative was met with the support and backing of the entire international community with the exception of Israel. This initiative was endorsed by the Casablanca Arab summit and the Nonaligned Movement's Prague summit. Besides, the EEC member states voiced their support for this initiative in the Madrid summit. Moreover, the socialist bloc states expressed their support for this initiative in the Bucharest summit statement. The UN General Assembly supported this initiative in Resolution No 176 which it adopted. In addition to all this, other international and regional groupings as well as the PRC and Japan voiced support for this initiative of ours.

Out of our support for the peace process, we dealt positively with all the positive ideas proposed within the framework of efforts to achieve peace in the region, including, for example, the idea of holding of free and democratic elections in the occupied territories—elections envisaged to be held under an international supervision and not under occupation, and as part of a comprehensive peace process in the region.

At the PLO Central Council meeting in October 1989 we adopted another important decision. The decision was to agree to hold a Palestinian-Israeli dialogue as a preliminary step in the peace march, provided that it had an open agenda and no preconditions. Despite our positive standpoints, which are based on the concord of international will and international legitimacy, only the U.S. Administration among all world states continues its bias toward Israel, which insists on refusing to recognize facts and to deal with the PLO. Moreover, Israel considers its approval of the formation of the Palestinian delegation to the dialogue to be a basic precondition for negotiations.

The U.S. Administration, which began its dialogue on the basis of our initiative and our agreement with Mr Shultz through Swedish Foreign Minister Andersson, is

still far from constructive and fair dealing. This is in spite of the substance of the peace initiative we proposed and despite our interest in the dialogue and our acceptance of negotiations to advance the peace process. Regrettably, the U.S. Administration founded all its scenarios and plans on the so-called Shamir plan, which totally undermines the peace process. This plan is an entrenchment of the occupation which deals with Palestinians as a part of Israel, not as a major party and a full partner to negotiations. The continuation of the U.S. bias complicates matters and exacerbates the situation in the occupied territories and does nothing to help advance the peace process in the region.

Brothers and sisters, it is obvious to you that the situation in the occupied territories worries us and all peace-lovers in the world because this situation has approached a breaking point as a result of the Israeli occupation forces' escalation of the iron-fist policy against our Palestinian people under occupation. Bayt Sahur, the city of the shepherds' field, is being subjected to the Israeli occupation authorities' repression, bestial acts, crimes, and looting. This is a genuine image of the systematized state repression and terrorism carried out by Israel—the occupation authority—in Gaza, Nabulus, Janin, Hebron, Bethlehem, Tulkarm, Ramallah, and other towns, camps, and villages of our holy land. The occupation authorities' decision to establish settlers' terrorist squads, called death squads, was denounced and condemned by peace-loving forces in the world, and even in Israel itself. This increases the danger of exterminating and slaughtering our people on a racist basis.

Up to now, our people have been committed to peaceful resistance over the 2 years since they began their popular intifadah. However, in view of growing Israeli extremism and repression and the attacks of the settlers and their racist practices, we expect more massacres to take place. This brings the entire region to a breaking point with unpredictable dimensions and results. Hence, we view the importance of the role of the United Nations in extending the necessary protection to our people so as to protect them from the crimes of the occupation and massacres of the settlers. Therefore, we appeal to you to raise your voice against the systematic state Israeli repression and terrorism and arrogance of force. We also urge the United Nations to put the necessary pressure on the U.S. Administration to make it change its biased stand on Israel's arrogance of force. We also look forward to pressure by you on Israel and the U.S. Administration to make them accept the UN resolutions and approve our people's right to self-determination in order to boost the peace process in the region. The entire world is looking forward to the achievement of peace in the region so that peace prevails in Palestine, the land of peace.

I thank you again for your solidarity and wish you success and good luck in your noble tasks to enable our people to exercise their inalienable national rights. Revolution until victory!

Sabri al-Banna Reportedly Hospitalized for Cancer

JN3011090089 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic 30 Nov 89 p 12

[Text] It has been definitely confirmed that Sabri al-Banna, also known as Abu-Nidal, is currently hospitalized in a Libyan hospital after developing acute cancer. THE NEW YORK TIMES report that he is being detained in the Libyan Jamahiriyah following sharp differences with the leaders of his organization and following the defection of some of these leaders to Tunisia is, therefore, untrue.

Illness Reports Denied

JN3011114289 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1100 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] The Revolutionary Council of Fatah, led by Abu-Nidal [Sabri al-Banna], has denied reports on the deterioration of Abu-Nidal's health. It stressed that the leader of the Fatah-Revolutionary Council is enjoying excellent health and is performing his leadership tasks.

Algeria

FLN Emergency Congress Enters Second Day

Focus is Reforms

LD2911220289 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Excerpts] The FLN [National Liberation Front], in the second day of an emergency congress, has been undergoing an extraordinary political transformation because the occasion is in itself an extraordinary one. [passage omitted]

[Unidentified correspondent] The congress today examined a number of topics which all revolves around one headline—reform—and one aim—developing the country and its citizens. Along the lines of this perception FLN proceedings continued for the 2d day. Today, speakers unanimously agreed on the need to crystallize the general orientations in a strong plan of action in order to enter the era of democracy thoroughly. In the hall, as well as outside, we have come into contact with the rank-and-file's interests on matters of concern to the country and on reforms currently under way. This was clearly reflected in the reports which were read out to the participants and outside the oval hall during breaks where the talk was interesting between various groups belonging to different generations. However, every one of them was trying to analyze the situation and propose ideas which might help to restore the FLN's credibility and to forestall the economic situation facing our country.

Chadli Bendjedid, president of the Republic and chairman of the FLN, was stopped by a number of FLN rank-and-file members on his way to the hall. Members confided their worries to him. however, The president was very frank when he answered a question about reforms, saying: If we had had another alternative we would have accepted it. However, demagoguery proposals cannot lead to anything. Thus, we have to adapt ourselves to circumstances and reality because of the burden of responsibility is a heavy one. furthermore, True militants should shoulder this burden. Reforms, Benjedid asserted, will enable the country to surmount its problems. We only have to wait 2 years before the reforms can bear fruit. Then we can breathe economically, he added.

The talk between the president of the Republic and the rank and file was frank and spontaneous, a matter which added to the rank and file's conviction that the FLN should come out with fresh determination to consecrate reforms in the field and attain their aims, as the FLN is the father of the reforms and their guardian. [passage omitted]

Secretary General Holds News Conference

LD2911230889 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Excerpt] The press conference given by FLN Secretary General Abdelhamid Mehri this afternoon, which was attended by Algerian and foreign news reporters, not only gave further information about the emergency congress, but also dealt with the reality facing the FLN today and in the future.

Replying to a question about the progress made by the four committees [set up by the congress], which continued their work for the second day, Abdelhamid Mehri said their work is progressing normally. We have to wait, however, until the end of their work to know the final outcome of their studies for reports submitted by conference participants. Regarding the long period required to read the regional reports, the congress's bureau is the only office competent to take a stance on such a problem. However, we earlier had allocated 15 months for every report, he added.

Abdelhamid Mehri also answered a question on the FLN's intention to decrease the number of delegates in the future. He said: The intention to do so is strong and will be taken following the examination of reports. The experience of having regional congresses has been positive, and therefore it has given the reports more credibility. If the matter continues along the same line, the congress only will need to be a small one to adopt the final resolutions.

Concerning a news item published by a national daily on the number of FLN members, Abdelhamid Mehri refuted the report, and gave the true number as 570,411 militants, quoting an FLN document to that effect.

Concerning the FLN's stand with regard to a number of international issues, he said the FLN stand has always been a principled one. However, the congress deals only with a limited number of topics on the transformations underway in our country. [passage omitted]

Former Leaders Speak

LD2911225589 Algiers Television Service in Arabic 1900 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Excerpt] [passage omitted] We will go back to our interview with Boudjemaa Hichour after reviewing the two speeches made during the general debate [at the FLN emergency congress].

The first speaker was Dr. Ahmed Taleb Ibrahim [former foreign minister and Politburo member] who dealt with the various stages of the FLN's [national liberation front] struggle at different periods. He stressed that responsibility for the bad situation in the country should be shared by all, that is, all the FLN militants and everyone who happened to shoulder any responsibility at any level. He reviewed the particular aspects of each period, its gains and shortcomings. Dr. Teleb Ibrahimi also gave

his own perception on how the work should be done within the FLN, starting with the cleansing of the leadership and then the ranks so that the FLN might regain its role and be worthy to continue the leadership of the Algerian people, equipping itself with noble ideals based upon the notion of social justice which guarantees equality and solidarity for all and between all.

Mohamed Charif Messaadia [former chief of the FLN before the October events] also made a contribution to the debate by making an address in which he recalled the October events and the falseness of the accusation the FLN wholly was to blame for them. He also recalled the danger brought about by the new colonialism, because the edifice of development has been built on an administrative apparatus inherited from colonialism.

Messaadia stressed responsibility should be shared by all; the interest of everyone lies in the unity of militants who guarantee the unity of the people and the future. Messaadia added the question of whether the FLN should be a conservative or an open front never has been the issue; it only has been brought about by the colonialist propaganda machine. The difference between us is not about how we can increase our resource; rather it is about how to distribute it, he added. [passage omitted]

Bendjedid on 'Integrated' Plan of Reforms

LD3011100389 Algiers Domestic Service in French 0600 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] It is worth noting President Bendjedid had an unscheduled meeting with the foreign press as he was leaving the Congress Hall at the Olympic complex. They talked about matters regarding FLN issues and the reforms underway in Algeria. Concerning these reforms, President Bendjedid stated they represent an integrated whole plan. He stressed one cannot separate economic reforms from political ones. The president based his statement on the results achieved by some countries which separate economic reforms from political ones.

With regard to a question on the renewal of the FLN leadership by the grassroots, President Bendjedid stated this is a natural attitude. He pointed out it is illogical to expect these grassroots, following the end of the congress, to implement reforms with a leadership which it did not elect.

President Bendjedid indictated we always have been saying stagnation is unacceptable, one always should be realistic. This view does not mean, however, we are abandoning our principles, but one should take realities into account.

Foreign Minister Cited on Lebanon Developments

PM2911171789 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 27 Nov 89 p 2

[Qasiyy Salih al-Darwish report: "Algerian Foreign Minister Tells AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: Solution Lies in Legitimate Authority Assuming Its Powers; 'Awn Blocked Way to His Own Participation"]

[Text] Algiers—In a statement to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT yesterday, Algerian Foreign Minister Sayed Ahmed Ghazali said the next peace step in Lebanon will be the legitimate authority's exercise of full powers. He criticized General Michel 'Awn's position, saying 'Awn "blocked every way to his participation in the final solution through national accord."

Ghazali said: The difficult and painful circumstances under which President Ilyas al-Hirawi was elected, and particularly that severe blow—the assassination of the late President Rene Mu'awwad—have not prevented the Lebanese people from firmly and resolutely demonstrating their will.

He added: One could say these circumstances, or rather because of these circumstances, the new president will have a better chance than his predecessor because of the firm determination of the Lebanese people. That is why we believe the election of the president and formation of the cabinet are an important step forward.

On the next step in the peace process after the formation of the cabinet, Ghazali said: Assumption of all presidential, governmental, and legislative powers so the process of imposing legitimate Lebanese authority on all Lebanese territory may begin by unifiying the Army and placing it at the disposal of the president of the republic and the prime minister, followed by the implementation of programmed political reforms.

On Michel 'Awn's refusal to yield to the new legitimate authority of the president and the government, he said: "If he persisted in his refusal he would be exposing Lebanon to the threat of a return to violence and civil war. So far, 'Awn has not put forward any proposals nor made any initiative other than rejection of what all Lebanese and the international community see as the only way out of the crisis."

He added: All his moves only have closed all doors to his own participation in the final solution through national accord. President Mu'awwad's attitude was, despite that, balanced, wise, and rational, for he did his best to exclude all initiatives that could divide the Lebanese people. The late President Mu'awwad paid with his life the price of his insistence on national unity. The hands which struck Rene Mu'awwad also struck Lebanon and all the Lebanese people.

Referring to Algeria's contacts with the foreign states which allegedly support 'Awn indirectly, Ahmed Ghazali said: Yesterday I received the French ambassador, who told me the French ambassador in Beirut had met with Michel 'Awn and told him the following, verbatim: The French Government's position is that there can be no solution other than implementation of the al-Ta'if document.

Egypt

Arab League Secretary General Arrives on Visit

NC2811125989 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1230 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Text] Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi arrived in Cairo this afternoon on a 3-day visit to Egypt. Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, received him at the airport .

In a statement upon his arrival, Klibi praised the Egyptian people's contribution and sacrifices for the sake of the common Arab effort. He paid tribute to President Mubarak's role in support of Arab causes in general and the Palestinian issue in particular.

Dr 'Abd-al-Majid made a statement welcoming the visit of Klibi to Egypt, saying it will consolidate the role of the Arab League.

Klibi Meets Mubarak, Comments

NC2911141389 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1215 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Excerpts] Cairo, 29 Nov (MENA)—President Muhammad Husni Mubarak received Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi at the presidential office at noon today. Klibi arrived in Cairo yesterday for a visit of several days. Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, attended the meeting.

Klibi made the following statement after the meeting: I was happy to meet with President Mubarak today. Our talks centered on a number of Arab issues, particularly the Palestine cause and the situation in Lebanon.

He added: We also talked about Arab-African relations and the importance of maintaining them, and the ties between the Arabs and the EC, as well as the Arab-European dialogue. In this connection we discussed the need for us to develop ties with the EC, especially as regards the year 1992, when the EC countries will become a unified economic bloc. We also must develop relations between Arab and African groups to safeguard Arab interests and to ensure proper and flawless cooperation between them, as should be the case in cooperation between any two equal groups.

Klibi noted: I felt every support and encouragement on the part of President Mubarak for the Arab League Secretariat to enable it to continue its tasks, especially as regards matters of interest to the Arab countries. Foremost among these is the Arab League Charter, which should be amended. Basic changes must be introduced into it so that cooperation among our countries will be more successful and clearer.

Asked whether the Arab League has a specific message for the factions in Lebanon which are at war despite the presence of a legitimate president in the country, he said: Our message is that of al-Ta'if, the message of reconciliation. We support national reconciliation, which is a basis for peaceful coexistence among all the Lebanese factions. Now that a president has been elected in Lebanon, I believe there is no cause for dispute there. All the Lebanese must support him and coordinate with him to revive all the state's institutions and restore the country's prosperity and progress.

Answering a question on whether his visit dealt with the issue of the Arab League headquarters, he said this issue is contingent upon an Arab decision and when such a decision has been made it will be implemented. [passage omitted]

Klibi was asked whether a meeting of Arab and African foreign ministers will be held soon. He replied: We are preparing for a meeting of the permanent committee for Arab-African cooperation, which comprises 12 Arab and 12 African ministers. This meeting will deal with a number of political and cooperation isues. [passage omitted]

Meets 'Abd-al-Majid, Departs

NC2911162889 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, and Arab League Secretary General Chedli Klibi at midday held a session of official talks. They centered on developments in the Arab world, particularly the Palestinian issue and the current situation in Lebanon, as well as efforts being exerted to further the peace process in the region.

Following the session, Klibi said that the talks were comprehensive and touched on many issues of import to joint Arab efforts. He added the viewpoints expressed by both sides were in harmony. Klibi expressed his satisfaction with his meeting with Dr 'Abd-al-Majid, saying it will be of value in promoting joint Arab action.

Klibi said the Arab-European dialogue is of top interest to the Arab League. Klibi noted obstacles facing that dialogue will be tackled at a meeting which French President Francois Mitterrand called for next month. He expressed optimism over the prospects of improved Arab-European cooperation.

Following the talks, Klibi left Cairo, winding up a 24-hour visit to Egypt.

President Mubarak's Amman Visit Postponed

JN2911125889 Paris Radio Monte Carlo in Arabic 1200 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Randah Habib dispatch from Amman]

[Text] We have learned from an authorized source that the visit that Egyptian President Husni Mubarak was scheduled to pay to Jordan tomorrow, Thursday, has been postponed, perhaps until after the conclusion of the

emergency meeting of the Arab foreign ministers' council, due to be held in Tunis today.

In another development, Egypt has officially requested that the question of moving the headquarters of the Arab Economic Unity Council [AEUC] from Amman to Cairo be discussed during the coming ordinary session of the council, scheduled to be convened on 6 December.

The AEUC headquarters were moved from Cairo to Amman following the suspension of Egypt's membership of the Arab League in 1979. Cairo bases its request on the AEUC agreement signed in 1974.

For its part, Amman wants to retain the headquarters. It considers that the final decision on such a question is the business of the AEUC itself.

Observers believe that Egypt's intention to restore the AEUC headquarters to Cairo reflects its desire to consider the measures that followed the suspension of its membership of the Arab League as no longer in force. They noted that this request is the first step toward restoring the Arab League headquarters to Cairo from Tunis in accordance with the Arab League Charter.

Mubarak's Message on Palestinian Solidarity Day

NC2911220689 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1950 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] United Nations, New York, 29 Nov (MENA)—President Husni Mubarak has emphasized Egypt's support for all sincere efforts designed to revive and reactivate the peace process in the Middle East to reach a settlement based on respect for the principles of international law and the UN Charter and resolutions.

This came in a message President Mubarak addressed today to the chairwoman of the UN committee concerned with the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people on the occasion of the international day of solidarity with the Palestinian people.

In his message, President Mubarak presents four main elements to pave the way for serious efforts to achieve a comprehensive peace in the region. These elements are:

1. That the international community bolster the Palestinian people's peaceful course and encourage all positive developments resulting from this course.

2. That the international community be urged to act vigorously to revive the peace process and work to reach a peaceful settlement based on respect for the principles of international law and the UN Charter and resolutions and recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate national and political rights.

3. That consultations start among the various concerned parties and the permanent members of UN Security Council to prepare for convening an international peace conference.

4. That the UN Security Council resolutions concerning the situation in the occupied territories and the protection of the Palestinian people's rights under occupation be respected.

President Mubarak expressed his hope that the international community will shoulder its responsibility in realizing these elements and create the appropriate circumstances for the success of the peace process.

The following is the text of President Mubarak's message:

Madam Chairwoman of the UN committee concerned with the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people:

Let me begin by extending my thanks to you and to all committee members for the enormous efforts you are exerting to publicize the Palestinian people's just cause and for the valuable support you are giving to this people's heroic struggle.

We meet today to celebrate the day of solidarity with the Palestinian people amid historical developments and changes and in a one of the most serious phases of their struggle. As in previous years, we mark this day this year with a feeling of sorrow that the Palestinian people have not attained their legitimate rights. The continuation of the Palestinian struggle throughout these long years only increases our faith that a people's rights are not extinguished by the passage of time and that, in their struggle to attain their freedom and self-determination and to establish their independent state, the Palestinian people's victory is inevitable and will be witnessed by our contemporary world.

The Palestinian people's struggle during the past 4 decades has been marked by successive stages of sacrifice and heroism, with each stage leading to a new and clearly cohesive phase of the struggle to achieve the people's legitimate aspiration to freedom and independece. The Palestinian intifadah is raging in the occupied territories to confirm the Palestinian people's unshakable faith in their right to a free and honorable life and to emphasize the failure of all plans designed to subdue them and to make them abandon their just cause and their right to defend their land and identity.

In the life of a people, successive years of dignity and honor are in a race against time. In a few days' time, the Palestinian people's intifadah will enter its 3d year, thus proving to the whole world this people's determination to continue the struggle as long as they have not attained all their legitimate rights and as long as they have not assumed their place among the free and independent nations that belong to our international community. The eruption of the intifadah was the result of conditions that continue to exist in the Palestinian arena. For this reason, the fire of the intifadah will not die down as long as these conditions persist. The peoples' aspirations cannot be suppressed; on the contrary, they become stronger and more cohesive under suppression.

The past year was noteworthy in the march of the Palestinian people's struggle. The 19th session of the Palestine National Council and the resolutions it adopted were an historic event and a great leap toward a permanent and just peace in the Middle East. They resulted in a comprehensive strategy for Palestinian activity, around which the Palestinian people in the occupied territories have rallied in support of their legitimate representatives abroad. There is no doubt about the great impetus the peace process received as a result of this positive development. Therefore, we cannot help reaffirming the need for all parties concerned to seize this unique opportunity and to move toward a peaceful solution of the Palestinian issue. Dealing in a negative way with the current development will merely be a desperate attempt to stop the march of history. Such attempts will only produce further tension and violence in the area.

Furthermore, it is expected that the international community will act to support and encourage the parties concerned to adopt a peaceful approach in resolving the problem. The role of the United Nations in this regard is considered indispensable. The principles on which the United Nations was established, foremost of which is the right of peoples to determine their future and to obtain their political rights, must be applied equally to all peoples of the region. The Palestinian people are still aspiring with confidence and pride to a better future in which they can exercise their inalienable right to self-determination.

Egypt has upheld and will continue to uphold that a just and comprehensive settlement of the Palestinian issue is the only way to achieve peace in the Middle East. This peace will provide stability and security for the peoples of the region and will enable them to devote their resources to developing and building their societies.

Out of its belief in the justice of the Palestinian cause, the Arab Republic of Egypt has been in the forefront of those supporting the Palestinian people's struggle for liberation. Egypt believes that the continuation of the present situation of no solution endangers the region's stability and world peace and security. All parties to the problem must seize the present opportunity and earnestly seek comprehensive peace in the region.

The Arab Republic of Egypt supports all sincere efforts to revive and reactivate the peace process in the region. It believes that there are certain major elements which must be taken into consideration in preparing for these efforts. They are:

1. That the international community bolster the Palestinian people's peaceful course and encourage all the positive developments resulting from this course.

2. That the international community be urged to act vigorously to revive the peace process and to work to reach a peaceful settlement based on respect for the principles of international law and the UN Charter and resolutions and recognition of the Palestinian people's legitimate national and political rights.

3. That consultations start among the various concerned parties and the permanent members of the UN Security Council to prepare for convening an international peace conference.

4. That the UN Security Council resolutions concerning the situation in the occupied territories and the protection of the Palestinian people's rights under occupation be respected.

The Arab Republic of Egypt hopes that the international community will shoulder its responsibility in realizing these elements and create the appropriate circumstances for the success of the peace process so that we can achieve a just and comprehensive settlement that will ensure security and safety for all peoples of the region without exception.

Finally, I would like to reiterate my thanks to your honorable committee, reaffirming to you and to the members of the committee our great appreciation.

'Abd-al-Majid Speech on Palestine Solidarity Day

NC3011110389 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2030 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Excerpt] Cairo, 29 Nov (MENA)—[Passage omitted] The following is the text of the speech which was delivered by Ambassador Sami Haybah, assistant foreign minister, on behalf of Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, during the celebration that was held by the Egyptian UN association [al-jam'iyah al-Misriyah li al-umam al-Muttahidah] this evening, on the occasion of the international day for solidarity with the Palestinian people:

Ladies and Gentlemen: The international community is today celebrating the international day for solidarity with the Palestinian people. The celebration this year assumes special importance because it comes 1 year after the Palestinians pursued a peaceful course toward peace. It was a year replete with action, vigor, and endeavors to achieve legitimacy, justice, and peace—all of which are goals that stem from and conform with the aims and objectives of the UN Charter.

The celebration this year comes during circumstances that require all efforts to be jointly exerted to give an impetus to the peace process between Israel and the Palestinians and to clear all obstacles facing this process so that the opportunity for peace that is now available will not be lost.

Ladies and Gentlemen. On this occasion, I cannot but laud the UN efforts for the sake of the Palestinian issue. It is not strange that Arab Egypt, which is a member of the international organization and believes in this organization's goals and charter, is giving the Israeli-Palestinian conflict top priority in its policy and diplomacy.

Egypt's concern with this issue began in the early beginnings and Egypt has continued and will continue to follow the developments of this issue until a lasting peaceful and just settlement is achieved on the basis of international legitimacy and in accordance with international law.

Within this context, Egypt has played a major role toward the realization of this goal through war and peace. Egypt has fought four wars with Israel, the last of which was the glorious and triumphant October 1973 war, which, in addition to its military dimensions, continues to constitute a watershed in the region's policies and in the direction of foreign policies toward this region.

Those wars ended with the issuance of UN Resolutions 242 and 338 which represent the basis for the solution of the Arab-Israeli conflict, including the Palestinian issue.

Those four wars did not turn the Egyptian political will from its quest for peace. Egypt has spared no effort, on the bilateral or regional level or through international forums, to respond to all peace initiatives, whatever their source or identity. Egypt has also encouraged the positive aspects and elements in every initiative and contributed to rectifying the negative aspects and elements so as to ensure their conformity with legitimacy.

When the Palestinians pursued the path of peace during the Palestine National Council meeting in Algiers last year, Egypt welcomed this course and gave it special attention.

Egypt has held constant consultations with the PLO, the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, in order to encourage it to continue to positively and practically pursue this peaceful course. This is in addition to Egypt's consultations and cooperation with all the concerned regional and international parties, which are interested in the efforts to achieve a lasting, peaceful, and just settlement, in order to give impetus to this process and provide a suitable atmosphere for it.

In its eagerness to give momentum to the peace process, when this process stumbled and reached a deadlock due to Shamir's vague plan, Egypt presented 10 points to clarify this plan so as to learn its interim and final goals and the ways to link them together.

Egypt has not performed this role as a substitute for the Palestinians but out of its profound conviction, in coordination with the Palestinians, that a favorable and real opportunity to achieve peace exists and must not be wasted.

Likewise, Egypt believes that its role in promoting the peace process and the moves it is undertaking to emerge from the deadlock are not a substitute for the United Nations but constitute a contribution that bolsters international legitimacy and the objectives of the UN Charter.

Egypt also believes that this complex issue requires concerted and consolidated efforts.

Proceeding from this premise, Egypt maintains that Israel's continued building of settlements in the occupied territories and its increasing repression of the residents of the territories under its occupation contradict UN resolutions, obstruct peace efforts, and are an expression of the continued Israeli defiance of the international community's will.

The Palestinian intifadah is the legitimate right of a fraternal Arab people who are expressing their rejection of occupation and repression. We have followed up the sacrifices which the Palestinians have made throughout the intifadah for the sake of liberty and independence. We stand by them with firmness and determination and insist that the proud Palestinian people should have liberty and independence.

Ladies and gentlemen, I must also note the role carried out by the international community through the work of the UNRWA [United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East] and the International Red Cross. It is a role that must be preserved and furthered.

Egypt, proceeding from its belief in the importance of this role, cooperates fully with specialized UN agencies and seeks assiduously to extend all assistance to facilitate their humanitarian and civilized mission that constitutes part of the international community's conscience.

Ladies and gentlemen, for my part, I would like to stress to you that Egypt's celebration of solidarity day with the Palestinian people is not a routine ceremonial function. It proceeds from the immutable fact that the Palestinian issue is a basic one for Egypt. I hope that the international community will be able, through its serious and persevering [words indistinct], to attain a comprehensive and just settlement of the Palestinian issue that will guarantee the Palestinian people's legitimate right to establish an independent state. I hope that when we celebrate this occasion next year these hopes will have been fulfilled. Peace, and God's mercy and blessings be upon you.

'Abd-al-Majid Addresses Assembly on Foreign Policy

NC2911211989 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1830 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, has said that Egyptian diplomacy has taken up new tasks that are increasingly relevant to the life and future of the Egyptian citizen and the needs of comprehensive development and progress in a society living in an atmosphere of security and stability. Such tasks befit what has been termed the diplomacy of development, he added. This came in an address which he delivered tonight at a joint meeting of the People's Assembly's committees on Arab and external affairs,

defense, and national security. The meeting was chaired by Dr Muhammad Hasan al-Zayyat.

Dr 'Abd-al-Majid said that the financial and economic assistance which Egypt receives from various countries is governed by well- defined principles that are commensurate with the sound performance of the country's economic and social plans.

Concerning Egypt's position on major political issues, 'Abd-al-Majid said that Egypt's ties with Arab countries are of primary importance. 'Abd-al-Majid said that the Foreign Ministry, in coordination with other ministries and agencies, has followed up developments concerning the interests of Egyptian workers in Iraq.

'Abd-al-Majid added that Egypt is following the developments in southern Sudan with special interest and encourages the efforts to contain the conflict in the south and find a peaceful settlement for that problem. Egypt, he said, denounces any foreign intervention aiming at exploiting the situation in southern Sudan.

'Abd-al-Majid voiced Egypt's full support for the steps which have been taken in Lebanon. Egypt, he said, supports the constitutional legitimacy in that country and hopes for an end to strife.

Concerning the Palestinian issue, 'Abd-al-Majid said that there is a historical opportunity to find a peaceful settlement to that problem, especially following the issuance of the Palestinian National Council resolutions in Algiers last November. Egypt holds constant consultations with the Palestinians but cannot be seen as replacing them, he said.

'Abd-al-Majid said that the Egyptian Foreign Ministry is following the steps taken by the 12 EC member states in their bid to establish a unified Europe by the year 1992 and is examinig the possible repercussions of such a move on Egyptian and Arab interests.

AL-AHRAM on Government's 10-Point Message to UN

JN3011121889 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 28 Nov 89 pp 1, 11

[Excerpt] The message sent by Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, to the UN secretary general was distributed at the United Nations yesterday as an official General Assembly and Security Council document. The document says Egypt hopes the Israeli-Palestinian dialogue will begin as soon as possible so that the two parties can reach agreement on holding elections in the occupied Palestinian territories as a step toward a just and comprehensive settlement—a settlement that takes into consideration rights and obligations acceptable to both parties and which is considered necessary by the documents governing the Palestinain-Israeli conflict and the principles of peaceful settlements.

The document stressed the need for the Palestinian delegation to the dialogue to be formed from both inside and outside the occupied territories to ensure appropriate and true representation of all Palestinians. The formation of the delegation is the right of the legitimate leadership of the Palestinian people, said the document.

AL-AHRAM correspondent Afkar al-Kharadli has learned that in his message, Dr 'Abd-al-Majid said that the Egyptian Government agreed to the Israeli proposal for holding elections in the occupied territories irrespective of the details. However, it found the Israeli proposals to embody what might be construed as merely an attempt to contain and stop the deterioration of the situation in the occupied territories without giving due weight to the mutual rights and obligations of the two parties to the dispute within the framework of a comprehensive settlement.

The message outlined Egypt's role in the current contacts, and described the 10 points sent by President Husni Mubarak to the United Nations as falling within this context. The Egyptian activities are based on two main foundations:

—First, presenting the 10 points, or clarifications, so that they may complete the proposed documents within the current process and within the principles of the UN Charter and the requirements of a peaceful Middle East settlement.

—Second, proposing the idea of an Israeli-Palestinian dialogue in Cairo—a dialogue that should be held between an Israeli Government delegation and an authorized Palestinian delegation, with each party feeling free to propose its position on the peace process and to discuss the question of elections and any other subject.

The Egyptian message explained that the dialogue does not constitute a substitute for covening the international peace conference at a later stage. It added that Egypt does not consider itself a substitute for the Palestinian side. [passage omitted]

PLO's Al-Surani Says Egypt 'Understands'

NC2911143489 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1340 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Cairo, 29 Nov (MENA)—Jamal al-Surani, member of the PLO executive committee, has said that Egypt understands the PLO position concerning the latter's response to the five points presented by U.S. Secretary of State James Baker.

Al-Surani told MENA that Egypt has not pressured and will not pressure the PLO on behalf of any side, stressing that Egypt is a partner of the PLO and has prime interest in resolving the Middle East problem.

The Palestinian official concluded by saying that consultations and exchanges are continuing between the Palestinian and Egyptian leaders.

It is worth noting that Dr 'Ismat 'Abd-al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, yesterday, Tuesday, delivered to the Palestinian ambassador in Cairo the U.S. response to the questions asked and the clarifications demanded by the PLO regarding Palestinian representation and international legitimacy.

Al-Surani will relay this response to the Palestinian leadership in Tunis, which has called for an emergency meeting of the Arab League's ministerial council to formulate a unified Arab stand on the developments concerning the peace process in the Middle East.

Ministry Ensuring Loan Installments Settled on Time

JN2811213889 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 27 Nov 89 p 6

[Text] A responsible source at the Ministry of International Cooperation has stated that Egypt is committed to settling loan installments and interests on the dates on which they are due. The source also said that the ministry is in constant touch with the Central Bank to ensure that it settles them and to inform creditor countries about these settlements.

Mauritania

President Taya Delivers National Day Speech

AB2911100289 Nouakchott Domestic Service in French 1430 GMT 28 Nov 89

[27 November Speech by Mauritanian President Maaouiya Ould Sid'Ahmed Taya on the eve of the 29th anniversary of Mauritanian independence, in Arabic with passage-by-passage French translation—recorded]

[Text] Dear fellow citizens, 28 November 1989 is an occasion for our people to celebrate the 29th anniversary of the independence of our country—29 years of continuous efforts to develop our economy and our society on a solid, overall basis and to consolidate our national independence. The atmosphere of happiness and joy prevailing on this day of celebration of our reconquered freedom and our accession to international sovereignty should be an occasion for our people to reflect upon the great and noble mission assigned to our nation and which demands more sacrifice, solidarity, and unity. We should be aware of our duty to participate in national development and to defend our national independence and interests. The distinguished image of our country and the mark of repect shown by other countries should be preserved and reinforced. [passage indistinct] All progress, all development processes and even all genuine independence, demand permanent mobilization, more sacrifices, readiness to serve, and efforts.

The (?sovereignty) of any nation is the guarantee for its independence and prosperity as well as the willingness of its sons to make sacrifices and defend their fatherland with abnegation. But not everyone working for the state abides by these rules and some people just give lip service to the nation.

Dear fellow citizens, who has forgotten the horror of the genocide perpetrated against our citizens living in Senegal, marked by the slaughter of a great number of them, in addition to the looting and plundering of their property. The instigators of this horror in Senegal are determined to destroy the relations of friendship, brotherhood, and common interests existing between our two peoples since time immemorial. These incidents that victimized our numerous and wealthy nationals in Senegal were not accidental. They were the result of slogans launched during the last electoral campaign. Senegal has therefore cut a deep wound in relations between our two countries and our two peoples. After these tragic incidents, Senegal and its accomplices mounted false propaganda campaigns. Some countries were influenced by this fallacious propaganda and revised their stand only after the visits made to our country by officials from other countries, who were able to acquaint themselves with the real facts. Therefore, everyone should seek the true facts today to enable the international community to apportion blame and to find suitable solutions. In this connection, the Islamic Republic of Mauritania remains open to all suggestions for a peaceful settlement of this dispute which was created and fueled against its will. It is worth noting that any fair settlement of the conflict should, inevitably, aim at returning the property confiscated by Senegal, compensating all our citizens, and guaranteeing the security and freedom of our citizens to return home.

We have responded favorably to all mediation, but the obstructive stand of the other side has prevented any progress in the process of a political settlement of the conflict. And in addition to this obstructive stand, Senegal forever is trying to increase tension, either through provocative statements or through the organization of aggressive acts against our country.

Despite Senegal's negative position, we will remain ready to avoid all acts that could fuel the tension, while safeguarding at the same time, the security of our citizens and the territorial integrity of our country. We would like to express our gratitude to the friendly and brotherly countries which stood behind our country while victim of a plot and understood our legitimate cause. [Words indistinct] with slogans that had nothing to do with our religion. [passage indistinct] We hereby thank all those who supported and generously helped our fellow needy citizens. These include governments and organizations. Fortunately, we now see Mauritanians engaged in manual work and (?agriculture) and they have shown solidarity by welcoming our brothers expelled from Senegal. In this connection, the various contributions made to supplement the efforts made by the government were most welcomed. [Words indistinct] these people showed solidarity, unity and commitment.

I would like to conclude this speech by [words indistinct] who contributed to make Mauritania, a country of freedom, and well-being.

Foreign Minister Reiterates W. Sahara Neutrality

PM2711145789 London AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT in Arabic 22 Nov 89 p 1

[Qasiyy Salih al-Darwish report: "Mauritanian Foreign Minister Tells AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT: No Polisario Attacks Launched From Our Territory"]

[Text] Paris, AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT—Mauritanian Foreign Minister Cheikh Sid'Ahmed Ould Baba has denied reports that recent Polisario [Popular Front for the Liberation of Saquia El Hamra and Rio de Oro] attacks on Moroccan forces were launched from Mauritania. In an exclusive statement to AL-SHARQ AL-AWSAT he stressed no attacks whatsoever were launched against Moroccan forces from Mauritanian territory.

Asked whether the Mauritanian forces' concentration on the Senegalese borders has created a vacuum which the Polisario has exploited, he said: "We still have sufficient forces in the north to enable us to control our territory and borders and certainly to ensure there are no military activities on our territory."

The Mauritanian foreign minister added: Our position on the Saharan issue has been clear and well known since 12 December 1984, that is, since Colonel Maaouiya Ould Taya assumed the presidency—complete neutrality on the issue. That position has not changed. But despite our neutrality, we hope there will be a solution acceptable to all parties.

On the development of the crisis with Senegal and the results of Egyptian President Husni Mubarak's mediation, he said: The mediation has reached an impasse because of Senegal's insistence on raising the border issue.

He said President Mubarak himself sensed that insistence.

He added: We are awaiting the six-member committee comprising Egypt, Nigeria, Zimbawe, Niger, Tunisia, and Togo, which will arrive 29 and 30 November. And we hope it will come with new ideas that will lead to a change in the Senegalese position.

He also said: For our part, we have welcomed and responded to all initiatives and mediations, and we will welcome and respond to any initiatives in the future.

Morocco

King Hassan Meets Visiting UAE President 28 Nov

JN2911175189 Manama WAKH in English 1600 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Rabat, Nov 29 (GNA)—UAE [United Arab Emirates] President Shaykh Zayid Ibn-Sultan Al Nuhayyan met last night with King Hassan II of Morocco to discuss Arab developments.

The talks in Rabat, where Shaykh Zayid is on a visit, covered the Palestinian problem in light of current contacts to push forward peace efforts in the Middle East, as well as steps to unify Arab stands to serve the nation.

They also discussed the situation in Lebanon, and Shaykh Zayid expressed hope the Lebanese people would acheive peace, stability and sovereignty.

The two leaders also discussed ways to further boost the friendly ties between the two countries.

Minister Holds News Conference on Referendum

LD3011001289 Rabat Domestic Service in Arabic 2300 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Excerpts] Driss Basri, minister of interior and information, last night conducted a meeting—primarily dedicated to the referendum which will be in the kingdom—with foreign journalists accredited to Rabat. [passage omitted]

In his reply to questions, the minister pointed out all steps have been taken so voting will take place under the best circumstances. The number of polling stations has increased from 30,000 to 60,000. This will enable all citizens to carry out their electoral duty without moving very far from their homes or waiting long in front of the polling stations. This also will make it possible to declare the final results in the evening of the same polling day. [passage omitted]

In reply to another question about whether the 1 December polling would cancel the self-determination referendum to be organized in the Sahara, Driss Basri denied that. He stressed the referendum, which will be organized by the United Nations, will be the determining referendum that will put an end to all objections. When the United Nations feels all the necessary conditions are satisfied, and when all the technical measures and practical preparations for carrying out a free and objective referendum in the Sahara are supplied, it will be implemented, and naturally only the result of this referendum can be acceptable to the international community.

He stressed the 1 December referendum never will cancel the final referendum because it will enable the population of the Sahara to give their opinion about the

future of their province in the self-determination referendum by practical voting, and they definitely will help the United Nations in carrying out its duties.

In his reply to a question about the meaning of the participation of the Saharan population in the southern provinces in the 1 December referendum, Basri stressed the matter concerns the Moroccan people's expression, inside and outside the homeland with all their sectors and in a clear cut way through collective and massive voting, of their commitment to their national and territorial integrity, and their readiness to defend them whatever the price might be and under any circumstances. [passage omitted]

New Arab Satellites To Be Launched by 1995

LD2411154289 Rabat MAP in English 1318 GMT 24 Nov 89

[Text] Rabat. Nov 24. (MAP)—Director General of the Arab Organization of Satellite Communications "Arabsat" Abdalkadar Bari [name as received] announced that the second generation of Arab satellites will be launched as of 1995 underlining that the satellites will be more performing than their predecessors.

Abdalkadar Bari said that the technical preparations and the funds needed to finance the satellites' construction were made. The greater performance of the new generation will help address the need of the Arab nation concerning spacial techniques for the period after 1995.

He stressed that "Arabsat" launched two satellite since its creation, the first on February 5, 1985 and the second on June 17, 1985.

The "Arabsat" organization, which is composed of 18 Arab states, aims at easing inter-Arab communication by satellite.

Sudan

Civilian Demonstrations, Mutiny by Army Reported

Mutiny in Blue Nile Province

LD2811210289 Paris International Service in French 1952 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Text] There has been a demonstration in Khartoum against the increased sugar price and the withdrawal of the subsidy on basic essential products. We are also informed that soldiers of the Sudanese Army have mutinied in Blue Nile Province: 42 of them are reported to have been killed after refusing to obey an order.

'Discontent' Within Army

AB2911123589 London BBC World Service in English 0730 GMT 29 Nov 89

[From the "Network Africa" program]

[Text] The government of General 'Umar al-Bashir in Sudan seems to be facing a stunt task at the moment. A demonstration in Khartoum on Monday night poured hundreds of students onto the streets, chanting their opposition to his government. Reports yesterday broadcast on SPLA [Sudanese People's Liberation Army] radio, suggested that there has been a mutiny of government troops in Blue Nile Province in the east of the country. More than 40 troops are said to have died in the fighting that followed when some of them refused to follow an order to recapture the town of Kurmuk, recently captured by the SPLA. Well, Gillian Lusk is an expert on Sudan, who writes for the magazine AFRICA CONFIDENTIAL, and Dan Isaacs asked her how she (?weighed) the events of this week.

[Begin recording] [Lusk] If it is true that troops have refused to try to retake the town of Kurmuk, that is very serious, but it fits in with the pattern of discontent that we have been hearing in the Army. In fact, there has been a lot of talk of rumors of a coup, basically within the barracks.

[Isaacs] Do you think that this rebellion would lead other military rulers around the country to take action and rebel themselves?

[Lusk] It could be. The thing about a lot of the garrisons in Blue Nile is that they have been closely in contact with the SPLA, which has been pressing them very hard not to fight. And that tallies with the feeling within the Army that they cannot win the war in the south and they do want peace.

[Isaacs] Now he is facing these serious military problems in the Blue Nile and other parts of the country. He is also facing problems among the civilian population in Khartoum, the students in particular, have been demonstrating. How serious a problem is this?

[Lusk] I think it is very serious. For some time now the various opposition forces—what they call the alliance forces, the professionals, and the trade unions and the political parties—have been trying to form some kind of concerted opposition to the government, and they have also been talking to the SPLA about this. So, they are not only talking about students demonstrations, the doctors went on strike on Sunday, and certainly they upset people because I learn they arrested very prominent doctors. For example, Dr Ahmad al-Tijani, who is one of the leaders of the 1985 uprising, and people will be very upset by this. There is talk now of engineers, bankers, and judges also joining the strike.

[Isaacs] You mentioned the 1985 uprising that overthrew President Al-Numayri. Is there any similarity between these two events?

[Lusk] There seems to be a good deal of similarity. In 1985, people were shouting: Come back, come back October!, which was a reference to the 1964 uprising when civilians overthrew military government. Now they have been shouting: Come back, come back April!,

which is a reference to 1985 when, of course, they overthrew the military government of Ja'far al-Numayri.

[Isaacs] Now, the government is planning to head off to Nairobi for peace talks with the SPLA. With all these problems at home with the military and civilian dissent in Khartoum, what hope has he got of achieving anything with the SPLA in Nairobi?

[Lusk] Well, he is going to talk in a very weak position, and in fact I understand from within the Army that it is Army pressure that has pushed him to these talks in Nairobi. The SPLA is now in much stronger position, both politically and militarily than the government.

[Isaacs] But there have been peace talks before with Sadiq's government and the SPLA. Why should these have any better chance of succeeding?

[Lusk] I don't think these talks, as such, will have a chance of succeeding but they will keep the idea of peace going, which is very important, particularly since the cease-fire was broken by both sides in recent weeks. So as soon as it goie? through to the people who need it, and there is supposed to be some kind of cease-fire in the south, then these peace talks will help in that respect. They won't provide a solution to the problem.

[Isaacs] Is there any chance that in the near future the government will take a radical step and perhaps include members of the SPLA in government or look to that sort of long-term solution.

[Lusk] Well, they might do it in a bid to sort of stay in power, I think. But I don't think that the SPLA would accept joining this government.

[Isaacs] Is the danger of leaving power that serious in Sudan for Al-Bashir?

[Lusk] It seems so now, yes. This is certainly how people are talking from [word indistinct] Sudan, north and south. [end recording]

Workers Reportedly Support Revolution

EA2811170789 Khartoun SUNA in English 0920 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Text] Khartoum, 28 Nov (SUNA)—Sudanese workers have reiterated their full support to the revolution and asserted they would not allow partisan activities to split their ranks. In a meeting with Command Council member and interior minister, Brig Faysal 'Ali Abu-Salih, the workers delegation headed by the workers union preparatory committee chairman, Siddiq Ahmad Sham'un, have said they understand the reasons behind the increase of sugar prices in the country and that they are supportive of the government economic policies, the daily "AL-SUDAN AL-HADITH" reported today.

Army Retakes Kurmuk; Fighting Continues in Area

AB2911174989 Paris AFP in French 1738 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Khartoum, 29 Nov (AFP)—The Sudanese Army today recaptured the border locality of Kurmuk (in the country's southeast), a communique by the Armed Force High Command has announced. The communique pointed out that fighting is still going on around the locality. Kurmuk fell at the end of October to the rebels of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army (SPLA of Colonel John Garang).

Army Enters After 'Fierce Battle'

EA2911181189 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Excerpt] The General Command of the Armed Forces issued a statement confirming that the Armed Forces had entered Kurmuk at noon today following a fierce battle in which the enemy lost many killed. Our forces are still pursuing remnants of the rebels. [passage omitted]

General Command Statement

EA2911192889 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Excerpts] The General Command of the Armed Forces issued a statement confirming that the Armed Forces had entered Kurmuk at noon today following a fierce battle in which many of the enemy were killed. Our forces are still pursuing several of the rebels.

Lieutenant General Ishak Ibrahim 'Umar, chief of general staff, reads the general command's statement:

[Begin 'Umar recording] In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. [passage omitted]

In fulfillment of the pledge which the Armed Forces made to itself, and in maintaining the dignity of this nation and its unity, and in defense of the dear homeland, the General Command of the Armed Forces is pleased to announce to the masses of the great Sudanese people, as they mark Martyrs' Day, that their valiant sons and soldiers have returned to their positions inside Kurmuk town and have captured it after a magnificent heroic fierce battle during which they confirmed their determination, commitment, and promise, as well as their loyalty to their nation and people in pursuing the outlaws, who are reneging against the consensus of this nation, wherever they are and wherever they are found.

At noon today, Our valiant Armed Forces entered Kurmuk town after a quick and ferocious battle in which they inflicted many losses in lives and equipment on the enemy.

They chased them outside the town. Our forces are still chasing them as they flee in groups and individually. The

Armed Forces have fulfilled what they promised. They stand alongside the people, defending the land and our honor.

In spite of this important military victory, the Sudanese people and their Armed Forces are still committed to the earnest effort toward peace. They are seriously and keenly watching ongoing attempts at negotiations for achieving peace. They hope peace efforts will be crowned with success. [passage omitted]

Long live your Armed Forces, the protectors of the sanctuary and the land. May peace and the mercy and blessings of God, the sublime, be upon you. [end recording]

Official on Capture, Internal Front

EA2911195089 Omdurman Domestic Service in Arabic 1700 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Brigadier al-Zubayr Muhammad Salih, deputy chairman of the Revolutionary Command Council, has addressed the Sudanese nation to congratulate it on the victory of the Armed Forces and the recapture of the heroic town of Kurmuk.

His excellency stressed that the battle for Kurmuk was the battle of the Sudanese nation against mercenaries and agents. He added that this victory was the greatest legacy of the faithful martyrs for our great nat?on.

Brig al-Zubayr stressed that while this victory was being won and the nation was backing the National Salvation Revolution by consensus toward a restoration of pride and vigor, gangs of communists and their hangers-on were moving with the aim of smashing the internal front.

He stressed that the revolution would not remain silent in the face of this treachery against the homeland, but would strike with an iron fist every traitor and outlaw acting against the will of the Sudanese nation.

Qatar

Amir's Message on Palestinian Solidarity Day

JN2911181189 Manama WAKH in English 1535 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] United Nations, Nov 29 (GNA) H.H. [His Highness] the Amir of Qatar Shaykh Khalifah Ibn-Hamad Al Thani has called for exerting utmost efforts to invest positive changes in international stands brought about by the Palestinian uprising (intifada) in the occupied Arab territories in order to get the international community to intensify its endeavours to contribute to putting an end to the Palestinian people's sufferings and achieve a just and lasting settlement.

The call came in a message H.H. the amir sent today to the 12th meeting of the U.N. Committee on the Exercise of the Inalienable Rights of the Palestinian People on the occasion of the international day in solidarity with the Palestinian people.

In his message, H.H. the Amir of Qatar pointed out that the world has unanimously underlined the optimal means of the settlement to be through convening a U.N.-sponsored conference in which concerned parties take part including the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the sole representative of the Palestinian people, and the participation of the U.N. Security Council five permanent members.

"The world, H.H. the amir said, is now witnessing at the Palestinian level a continued heroic struggle that has produced an ability to deal in a positive spirit with the changing regional and international circumstances."

"The world is also witnessing, at the Arab level, appreciation and support for the Palestinian moves as well as steps by the Arab countries to reinstate peace in the Middle East," H.H. the amir said adding that at the international level the world is witnessing a wide-scale recognition of the Palestinian state and insistent demands for achieving the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people.

In his message H.H. the amir of Qatar added these Palestinian, Arab and international moves calling for just peace are being encountered by Israel's intransigence, arrogance and attempts to freeze the situation and cancel the historical development that have brought gains for the Palestinians as a result of their heroic struggle for freedom and dignity.

Israel, H.H. the amir said, is also defying U.N. resolutions based on international legitimacy that call for the right of Palestinian people to self-determination and independence.

H.H. the amir affirmed that Israel's persistence in considering the occupied Arab territories as part of greater Israel were claims supported only by injustice, aggression and continuation of using the war machine in killing civilians who possess no weapons except stones to defend themselves.

"These claims have pushed Israel to comit more crimes including establishment of settlements, dismantling Palestinian houses, mass trials, closing schools and universities, suspendng all types of education, and desecrating Islamic sanctuaries by continuation of its aggressive and barbaric spirit against the Arabs and Muslims," H.H. the amir said.

H.H. the amir of Qatar further said in spite of all the continued sufferings of the brother Palestinian people, including the injustice of the Israeli occupation and the heinous measures of repression the heroic Palestinian people celebrated, few days ago, the first anniversary of the proclamation of their independent state, a decision which was a fruit of the Palestinian uprising (intifada) which is about to enter its third year and which sets an example of the most heroic struggle in history in encountering unjust foreign occupation.

H.H. the amir expressed profound appreciation of the government and people of Qatar for valuable and constructive efforts of the committee for supporting the steadfast people of Palestine and for exposing Israel's racist practices that have the objective of wiping out the Palestinian people's rights national identity, and existence.

H.H. the amir reaffirmed Qatar's full support for the great struggle of the Palestinian people for restoring their usurped territories and rights.

H.H. the amir also affirmed anew Qatar's full support for the noble efforts of the committee in support of the Palestinian people until their freedom be restored and their independent state be established on their national soil in order to achieve genuine peace, security and stability in the Middle East.

Saddam Husayn Chairs RCC-Ba'th Party Meeting

JN2911214089 Baghad INA in Arabic 2050 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Nov (INA)—President Saddam Husayn this evening chaired a joint meeting of the Revolutionary Command Council and the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party Regional Command. The meeting lasted more than 4 hours.

Saddam Receives Kuwaiti Envoy, Amir's Message

JN2911140289 Baghdad Voice of the Masses in Arabic 1300 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] His Excellency President leader Saddam Husayn this morning received 'Abd-al-Rahman Salim al-'Atiqi, an adviser at the Amiri Court and personal envoy of His Highness Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah to his excellency the president.

Al-'Atiqi conveyed to the president leader a written message from his brother His Highness Kuwaiti Amir Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Sabah on fraternal bilateral ties.

UNIIMOG Commander Arrives From Tehran

JN2911164789 Baghdad INA in English 1600 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Baghdad, Nov 29, INA— Major-General Slavko Jovic, comm of the United Nations Iraq-Iran Military Observers Group (UNIIMOG) today arrived in Baghdad coming from Tehran.

Maj-Gen Jovic visit to Iraq comes within the frame of his shuttle tours between Baghdad and Tehran to get acquainted with the work of international observers of the ceasefire in both Iraq and Iran.

Oil Minister Attends Vienna OPEC Conference

Meets Indonesian Counterpart

JN2611115489 Baghdad INA in English 1040 GMT 26 Nov 89

Vienna, Nov 26, INA—Iraq's Oil Minister 'Isam 'Abd-al-Rahim met here last night his Indonesian counterpart Ginanjar Kartasasmita.

The two ministers were reported to have discussed items on the agenda of the current ordinary ministerial conference of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC), which opened in Vienna yesterday.

It is worth mentioning that Mr 'Abd-al-Rahim heads Iraq's delegation to the said conference.

Comments on Conference Outcome

JN2911155989 Baghdad INA in English 1510 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Vienna, Nov 29, INA—Iraqi Minister of Oil Mr 'Isam 'Abd-al-Rahim al-Jalabi described the outcomes of the 86th ordinary ministerial conference of the Organization of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) as advanced results compared with the previous conferences.

He said that all member states had shown remarkable cooperation out of their faith that the interest of all would be realized in case of reaching a logical agreement that reinforces the solidarity of these countries and their commitment to what is agreed upon.

The minister added in a statement to INA correspondent in Vienna after the conclusion of the conference here last night that reaching such outcomes would ensure enhancing and stability of oil prices for a no-short period and in the meantime would realize increasing revenues for the producing countries along with the necessity of ensuring equipment and price stability for the consumer countries.

The Iraqi minister said that the results reached by the conference was the increase of Iraq's quota from 2.926 million b/d [barrels per day] to 3.140 million b/d in harmony with the big increases in production capacities recently realized in Iraq.

The minister of oil said that we expect positive responses to the agreement reached by OPEC countries because the ceiling which was endorsed including the real production would be less than current production.

He added that the conference which started last Saturday in OPEC Secretariat Headquarters in Vienna also discussed the issue of appointing deputy secretary general of the organization and decided to postpone discussing the matter and taking the final decision about it till the OPEC next ordinary ministerial conference due to be held on 25th May next.

The conference decided that the watchdog ministerial committee comprising the ministers of oil of Iraq, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Algeria, Nigeria, Venezuela, Indonesia and Iran hold a session next March to follow up developments of the international oil market and adopt the necessary measures towards them.

The OPEC oil ministers agreed last night on a production ceiling for the organization during the first half of next year totally 22 million b/d with an increase of 1.5 million b/d from the current one. The conference asked the 13-member states to commit to their fixed quotas and also agreed that the minimum price of OPEC oil to stand at 18 dollars.

Ramadan Meets Egyptian Trade Union Official

JN2911211789 Baghdad Domestic Service in Arabic 1500 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Taha Yasin Ramadan, Revolution Command Council member and first deputy prime minister, today received a delegation representing the General Federation of Egyptian Trade Unions headed by Sa'id Jum'ah, member of the People's Assembly and deputy chairman of the General Federation of Egyptian Trade Unions.

Taha Yasin Ramadan touched on the importance attached by His Excellency President leader Saddam Husayn to the situation of the Egyptians in Iraq and also on the president's sentiments of affection and endearment he harbors toward the Egyptians. He affirmed the urgent measures ordered by His Excellency President leader Saddam Husayn to improve the state of affairs of the Egyptians confirm this fact and practically reflect the president's care for the sons of fraternal Egypt.

Ramadan affirmed Iraqi-Egyptian ties expand and develop on a daily basis. He added the cohesion between the Egyptians and Iraqis is being entrenched and bolstered through the strong fraternal ties which rendered exemplary the ties maintained by official, popular, and professional bodies.

The delegation representing the General Federation of Egyptian Trade Unions expressed the Egyptian people's appreciation and love for His Excellency President leader Saddam Husayn. The delegation also voiced deep thanks for the significance attached by the president leader to the affairs of the Egyptians, for his meeting with some Egyptians, and also for the exceptional decisions whose implementation was ordered by the president in this regard. The delegation added the Egyptians met these decisions with a great sense of satisfaction. The delegation affirmed the fraternal ties of cooperation between the two countries will continue to develop in all spheres.

During the meeting, which was attended by Fadil Mahmud Gharib, chairman of the General Federation of Iraqi Trade Unions, the conferees stressed the need to find effective ways of boosting cooperation between the two federations in accordance with a future and long-term perspective.

Ramadan Receives Message From Malaysia's Baba

JN2811162789 Baghdad INA in English 1458 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Text] Baghdad, Nov 28, INA—Mr Taha Yasin Ramadan, member of the Revolution Command Council and first deputy premier, received here today a message from the Malaysian Deputy Premier Abdul Ghafar Baba.

The message was dealing with bilateral relations and Malaysia's keen interest in developing its relation with Iraq in all fields.

The message was delivered to Mr Ramadan by the Malaysian ambassador in Baghdad during his audience with the Iraqi official.

Visiting PRC Delegation Leaves Baghdad 29 Nov

JN2911101489 Baghdad INA in Arabic 0830 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Baghdad, 29 Nov (INA)—Han Kehua, vice chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the CPPCC National Committee, left Baghdad at dawn today at the end of a several-day visit to Iraq. During the visit, the PRC official held talks with officials from the Ba'th Party Regional Command and the National Patriotic and Progressive Front on ways to promote party ties and bilateral relations.

Trade Minister Salih Leaves for London Meetings

JN2811105889 Baghdad INA in Arabic 1005 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Text] Baghdad, 28 Nov (INA)—Trade Minister Muhammad Mahdi Salih today left for London to head the Iraqi delegation to meetings of the eighth session of the Iraqi-British joint committee for economic, trade, and technical cooperation, scheduled to begin here later today.

During 2 days of meetings, the committee will discuss the possibility of building some industrial projects in Iraq and follow up on the development of relations between the two countries in economic, trade, and scientific fields. Minutes for financial cooperation between Iraq and Britain also will be signed.

It is worth mentioning that economic experts from the two countries yesterday began meetings to discuss and approve the agenda for the ministerial meeting.

Milo Reaffirms 'Right To Intervene' in Lebanon

TA2911162989 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Israel reserves itself the right to intervene in Lebanon if its interests are harmed. Minister Roni Milo made this statement in the Knesset today while speaking on behalf of the government. Milo also addressed the possibility of Syrian intervention in Lebanon:

[Begin Milo recording] Israel maintains a constant watch over these developments, especially Syrian military maneuvers and any Syrian intention to make a show of force. While Israel's fundamental policy is to abstain from military intervention in the Lebanese crisis, we reserve ourselves the freedom to act and respond if interests crucial to us are put in danger. [end recording]

Rabin Reiterates 'Right' To Act in Lebanon

TA2911182189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Defense Minister Yitzhaq Rabin says that Israel reserves the right to operate and react freely in Lebanon if its vital interests are affected. Our correspondent Yo'el Nir points out that Minister Rabin noted that Israel is closely following developments in Lebanon, particularly Syria's military moves. At the same time, he said that in principle Israel's policy espouses abstention from military intervention in the Lebanese crisis. As in the past, this time we again appealed to international bodies, asking them to try—as the defense minister put it—to rein in Syria.

Minister Rabin confirmed that 2 nights ago the Syrians substantially increased their deployment in Lebanon by introducing mechanized infantry units, as well as commando and artillery units. He believes that there is reasonable likelihood that they will engage in a land or air military move to topple General 'Awn. The defense minister was speaking at the Knesset in response to motions to the agenda on Lebanon.

Air Force Chief Warns of Clashes With Syrians

TA2911153089 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1430 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Major General Avihu Bin-Nun, commander of the Israeli Air Force [IAF], said today that there is no doubt that the presence of Syrian aircraft in Lebanon may lead to clashes with our own planes. We are aware of this possibility and are doing all we can to prevent the Lebanese from involving us in a war against our will, he said. According to Maj Gen Bin-Nun, Syria has flown its own aircraft over Lebanese airspace several times over the past year in its conflict with Christian General Michel 'Awn.

Our military affairs correspondent 'Amos Har'el reports that Maj Gen Bin-Nun said that the Soviet Union continues to equip Syria and other Arab states with extremely sophisticated weapons. The IAF commander, speaking in a lecture to officials of the Women's International Zionist Organization, asserted that the changes taking place in Eastern Europe have so far had no effect on arms procurement in the Middle East.

[In a report on the Air Force commander's remarks, Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew at 1500 GMT on 29 November notes that "Maj Gen Bin-Nun said that unfortunately the 1990's hold no promise of peace, and what is happening across the border does not encourage hope for disarmament in the region. Bin-Nun added that the end of the Persian Gulf war does not make it any easier for Israel to guarantee total safety in the event of war. He expressed the opinion that the Iraqis consider Israel their chief enemy, ahead of Iran. As far as they are concerned, the bombing of the Iraqi nuclear reactor in 1981 is still a matter to be avenged."]

'Unequivocal' Message Relayed to Syria Via U.S.

TA3011072489 Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 0600 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Report by political correspondent Natan Gutman]

[Text] The message which Israel has relayed to Syria via the United States is unequivocal and resolute: Israel reserves the right to take action in Lebanon if its interests are harmed by the Syrians.

Israel furthermore has asked the United States to appeal to the Soviet Union to relay a message that calls on the Syrians to exercise restraint in their operation in Lebanon.

Dealing with political and defense issues, the Inner Cabinet yesterday discussed the situation in Lebanon and decided on Israel's announcement to Syria as read out in the Knesset by Minister Roni Milo.

Political elements in Jerusalem noted yesterday that Israel had received appeals from Christian Lebanese elements, who entreated Israel to take a stance in support of General 'Awn against Syria.

To sum up, although the Israeli stand regarding Syrian activities in Lebanon is firm and unequivocal, Jerusalem is for the time being limiting itself to issuing verbal warnings, closely following the developments, and relaying messages to Syria through various channels.

Weizman Says Syria Could Bring Order to Lebanon

TA3011105789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0805 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Interview with 'Ezer Weizman, science and technology minister, by Dan 'Ofri on the "It's All Talk" program—live and in progress]

[Excerpt] [Weizman, in progress] ...I do not think even army generals should declare that air clashes between

Syrian and Israeli planes are possible, or that there is a possibility of downing planes. I would tread softly on the issue.

As for the question you asked earlier, about what would happen if Syria completely took over Lebanon: Two theories have prevailed in the past 20 or 30 years: one, asserting that such a move is dangerous; and the other, saying that it would divide Syrian forces.

Another very important point: The Soviets have advised the Syrians that they no longer fully support all Syrian actions, and that includes arms supply. The circumstances are changing, and I really would not like to repeat what everyone has been saying about recent events in East Europe.

There is a desire for change in the Middle East, too. Hence, Syria could to a certain extent bring some order to poor, desperate Lebanon without endangering us—that is, if it manages to prevent terrorist infiltrations. Both you and the listeners know that Israel's quietest border these days is on the Golan Heights. This does not mean, of course, that the situation cannot change tomorrow, but when a powerful ruler like Al-Asad decides that there will be no infiltrations, then there indeed will be none. Utter chaos reigns in Lebanon. Perhaps the Syrians will be able to introduce some order into that country. Therefore, I am not very concerned with this issue, and I would certainly refrain from making declarations in the spirit of: Behave yourself, Syria, or else. [passage omitted]

Minister Katz-'Oz Discusses Talks in Moscow

TA2911074589 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0505 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Telephone interview with Agriculture Minister Avraham Katz-'Oz in Moscow by Arye Golan—live]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] [Golan] During your current visit to the USSR have you already arrived at real achievements, have you signed agreements to export fresh agricultural produce from Israel to the USSR?

[Katz-'Oz] We are so practical about things that although some 30 years have passed since an Israeli minister visited the USSR—and even then it was to attend some conference and not a proper invitation—that is the first thing you ask. So first of all, the State of Israel's achievement is political. I have already conferred with many senior officials. For instance, last night I conferred with the Supreme Soviet's Agricultural Committee. They are very respected, very serious people, who will also come to visit Israel, some in February, and some in March.

The visit therefore has primary importance for the development of ties, since one usually cannot jump straight into practical affairs; things have to be prepared. Anyway, in the agricultural field, in which we would very much like to make deals, we are already in relatively advanced stages of negotiations. We are discussing prices. We know what types of produce they want and the quantities. We are discussing transportation and prices. They know what prices they are prepared to pay; therefore, it is out of the question to propose unrealistic prices. In turn, we are facing difficulties, since we do not wish to take losses on deals. We are talking to mediators about barters, under which the USSR would receive goods so that they will be able to pay us in U.S. dollars or shekels.

[Golan] Minister Katz-'Oz, you previously stressed the political significance beyond the immediate agricultural reason for your visit. Did you also have talks on the resumption of relations between Israel and the USSR. When and how will it happen?

[Katz-'Oz] I believe that each minister should deal with his own portfolio. I did not deal with political issues, not because I do not think I can make a contribution, but because I would not like other ministers to deal with issues they do not understand, such as agriculture. I am therefore dealing with my business.

On the other hand, I hear things, mainly from people in the media and senior officials in the Supreme Soviet, as well as the people I am conferring with. There was a six-part series on Israel on Soviet Television, which came as a surprise to the Soviet public, which had not seen the State of Israel for many years, and this had its effect. Second, the entire process here is also opening hearts. Many tell me that the day is not far off when the USSR will form much more organized relations with Israel than currently exist. When I ask when that will happen, they say they believe that in their view within 6 months.

By the way, in my meetings here, Arye Levin, the Israeli representative, also participates. That means that, although these are not talks about diplomatic ties, they are not merely commercial talks because the senior Israeli representative is attending. [passage omitted]

'Holocaust' Document Agreement Reached With GDR

TA2911193789 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Israel and East Germany are to exchange historical documents on the holocaust despite the absence of diplomatic ties. The Yad Vashem Holocaust memorial here in Jerusalem revealed today that East German researchers arrived this week to sign the agreement which will open archives on German Jewry and the holocaust that were previously closed to Israelis.

Labor's Force 17 Disbands Over 'Differences'

TA3011054989 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 0500 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] The Labor Party's Force 17 has been disbanded, after its members were unable to settle differences between the doves and the hawks. Our correspondent Shlomo Raz notes that Force 17 included, among others,

Knesset Members 'Uzi Bar'am, Hayim Ramon, and Binyamin Ben-Eli'ezer, who are considered to be doves, and Mikha'el Bar-Zohar, 'Imanu'el Sussman, and Ra'anan Kohen, the hawks. They had joined forces on the basis of their objection to the Alignment's participation in the unity government.

The circle's doves accuse the hawks of supporting continued partnership in the government. The hawks charge that the doves support negotiations with the PLO.

Labor Party elements believe that the dissolution of Force 17 is liable to harm the members' plans to seize the focal points of power within the party in the future.

Ministry Labels UN Decision 'Political Step'

TA2911184189 Jerusalem Domestic Service in English 1800 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Excerpts] In the face of American threats to cut funds, the UN Food and Agricultural Organization today voted to cooperate with the PLO in offering technical assistance to Palestinians in the administered territories. Only the United States and Israel voted against the resolution, which was sponsored by a group of Arab countries. [passage omitted]

In response, the Foreign Ministry in Jerusalem has called the decision political and said it totally ignores the reality of the situation in the territories. In a statement released this evening, the Foreign Ministry said that the Gross National Product in Judaea, Samaria, and Gaza has increased by 400 percent since Israel took them over in 1967. Jerusalem dismisses today's move as what it calls yet another political step taken by a United Nations agency.

West Bank Village Leagues To Renew Activity

TA3011110389 Tel Aviv 'AL HAMISHMAR in Hebrew 30 Nov 89 p 1

[Report by Pinhas 'Inbari and Uri'el Ben-'Ami]

[Text] Israel has decided to renew the activity of the West Bank village leagues. Their offices will be reopened. They will receive development funds and management authority. Also, equipment such as cars and communication systems will be placed at their disposal. At this stage, the resumption of activity is planned for Samaria only. This was learned by our correspondent from political sources close to the defense establishment.

Sources in the defense establishment confirmed the report, stressing however that there is no intention of reviving a former policy which was designed to ward off the impact of the PLO. Instead, the intent is to derive assistance from the leagues for security purposes.

The village leagues were disarmed when the decision to disperse them was made, but ex-members were given firearms for self-defense. Our correspondent has learned that the military government has appealed to several former village leagues heads to resume activity, and that some of them consented.

Inter-Arab Violence, Casualties in Territories

TA2911113089 Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English 29 Nov 89 pp 1, 10

[Report by Joel Greenberg and Mikhal Sela']

[Excerpts] Members of the "Black Panther" gang in Nabulus, armed with an M-16 rifle and pistols, imposed a curfew yesterday on parts of the casbah, confiscated telephones to prevent contact between residents, and violently interrogated several men following the overnight arrest of wanted youths by troops, residents reported.

According to local accounts, the gang acted after soldiers searched homes in the Yasminah neighbourhood on Monday night, arresting three young men, two of whom were wanted by the security services.

In the morning, members of the "Black Panther" gang ordered all neighbourhood residents with phones in their houses to take them out to the street, and confiscated them. Speaking through megaphones, the gang then declared 20- to 90-minute curfews in several areas. Gang members went from house to house, interrogating residents they suspected of informing on the youths who had been arrested overnight.

Hilal Sarisi, 38, and Mu'in Tuqan, 25, were severely beaten. [passage omitted]

At schools in Tulkarm and neighbouring 'Anabta, masked youths tried to disrupt the examinations, ordering teachers and test supervisors to help students answer exam questions, Palestinians said.

The latest leaflet of the uprising leadership had urged students to maintain discipline during the exams. A similar call was made in a leaflet reportedly issued yesterday by HAMAS [Islamic Resistance Movement]. [passage omitted].

In clashes at al-Shati' refugee camp, troops shot and wounded five children, aged six to 13, according to al-Shifa' Hospital records. One of them, Ahmad Abu-Hayyan, 10, was hit in the back and reported to be in serious condition.

In other clashes, a teenager in Jabalyah and another in Gaza city were shot and slightly wounded, according to Palestinian sources.

Official military sources reported three Palestinians wounded. They did not elaborate.

The military court in Gaza yesterday sentenced two residents of Khan Yunus to 28 months in jail and a third to 15 months for membership of popular committees.

Sources in the West Bank and Gaza reported a total of six petrol bombs thrown at Israeli army, police and civilian vehicles yesterday. There were no reports of injuries.

ITIM reported that a Qiryat Gatman, convicted of throwing a stone at a car owned by a Gaza resident, was sentenced by a Beersheba court to three months imprisonment and ordered to pay NIS [new Israeli shekels] 400 compensation to the driver.

[Tel Aviv 'Al HAMISHMAR in Hebrew on 29 November, in a page 4 report by Uri'el Ben-'Ami and Pinhas 'Inbari, adds: "In the Gaza Strip, the army yesterday delivered house demolition orders to four Rafah families. The four are members in strike committees of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine, who were detained last August and charged with the murder of two Rafah residents suspected of collaboration, and with harassing other suspected collaborators."

[Tel Aviv DAVAR in Hebrew on 29 November, in a page 2 report by Dani Tzidqoni and ITIM, adds: "East Jerusalem sources said that two residents of the village of al-Yamun in the Janin District were hospitalized after being beaten by soldiers in the course of an initiated operation in the village."]

Editorial Urges Shamir To Make 'Daring Move'

TA2611111189 Tel Aviv YEDI'OT AHARONOT in Hebrew 26 Nov 89 p 2

[Editorial by Yesha'yahu Ben-Porat: "Another Initiative Needed"]

[Text] If in leaving for his journey to the U.S. and European capitals Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir's hoped to eternalize and institutionalize the political freeze, his wish was granted. His interlocutors in Washington, Paris, and Rome understood that, as far as the Israeli prime minister is concerned, the stalemate can continue.

Washington was chilly. The more time passes, it seems, the tighter are its ties and the deeper its understanding with the PLO. A sign of that can be seen in the fact that President Bush did not refuse outright to accept a personal letter from Yasir 'Arafat.

Paris was "skeptical." It does not believe that Shamir's peace initiative stands a chance.

Rome was more explicit and said that the process will not get rolling without the participation of the PLO.

If Yitzhaq Shamir is not in love with the freeze and if he really wants to advance the process, he should learn the lesson of his journey and initiate a daring move to hasten his original initiative.

Otherwise, his government will find itself confronting Europe and the United States, and national unity will eventually dissolve.

Paper Sees 'Inevitability' of Talks With PLO

TA2811142189 Jerusalem AL-FAJR in Arabic 25 Nov 89 p 1

[Editorial: "Does Shamir Want To Negotiate With Shamir?"]

[Text] It seems that Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhaq Shamir is becoming more intransigent and inflexible than ever in his refusal to allow the launching of a peace process that will lead to a real and durable peace. Shamir is also becoming more persistent in achieving "some form of peace" according to his own perception, which is incompatible with the current reality and developments.

Shamir, who returned to Israel from his recent trip to Washington, Paris, and Rome, has been repeating very plainly his "unequivocal opposition" to PLO participation in any negotiations. In addition to reaffirming this statement, Shamir claimed that U.S. Secretary of State James Baker thinks "the Israeli peace plan constitutes, at present, the best possible basis for negotiations."

We have no intention of verifying the accuracy of this claim, but we ask: Have officials in Washington, Paris, and Rome indeed failed to convince Shamir of the inevitability of negotiating with the PLO? There are several reasons why Israel must do so, most prominent of which is that the PLO, by the acknowledgment of the entire world, is the Palestinian people's legitimate sole representative, whether Shamir likes it or not.

As for the Israeli "peace plan" from which Shamir does not want to lift his eyes, not only does it in no way ensure the achievement of a minimal peace, but it will complicate matters further and create an endless labyrinth. This is because of only one reason—namely, that this labyrinthine plan does not wish the PLO to have any representation in the proposed talks.

Does Shamir want to negotiate into thin air? Let him do so, because then he will hear nothing but the echo of his own voice.

Correction to IDF Violating Geneva Convention

TA3011074189

Jerusalem THE JERUSALEM POST in English on 30 November on page 2 publishes a "correction" to the item headlined "Group Claims IDF Violating Geneva Convention" published in the 28 November Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, page 31:

column two, paragraph four, second sentence, make read: ...seems doubtful that many of the measures... (changing word "any" to "many")

King Husayn Reportedly To Meet Mubarak, 'Arafat

JN3011085089 Amman AKHBAR AL-USBU' in Arabic 30 Nov 89 pp 1, 3

[Text] AKHBAR AL-USBU' has learned a tripartite summit is due to be conducted in Amman within the next few days to review all aspects of the current situation in the region, especially matters related to the latest developments in the Palestine question, the heightened tension in Lebanon, and the continued standstill in Iraqi-Iranian relations.

The Amman meeting is expected to bring together His Majesty King Husayn, Egyptian President Husni Mubarak, and Palestinian President Yasir 'Arafat. They will review all the developments and steps undertaken by various parties concerned with the Middle East crisis.

Earlier, King Husayn sent a reply to President Mubarak in which he gave his assessment of the efforts to bring about a Palestinian-Israeli meeting, and his assessment of the major issues in the region in general—the situation in Lebanon in particular. King Husayn's message was in reply to a message from President Mubarak delivered by Dr Usamah al-Baz, director of the president's office for political affairs, on 25 November. [SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic on 30 November page 1 published a similar report and added the following: "In addition, the source said the PLO has nominated al-Tayyib 'Abd-al-Rahim, the PLO's representative in Yugoslovia, ambassador of the State of Palestine to Jordan."]

King Husayn's UN Message Backs Intifadah Goals

JN2911213489 Amman Television Service in English 2000 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] His majesty the king has addressed a message to the United Nations on the occasion of the International Day of Solidarity with the Palestinian People. The message was read on his majesty's behalf by Jordan's United Nations Ambassador 'Abdallah Salah.

In his message, his majesty said that the Palestinian issue is of primary importance and urgency to world peace and security. This importance and urgency are now more demanding than any other time in the past. His majesty said Israeli occupation is aggravating the suffering of the Palestinian people and no progress in the peace process is being attained. Furthermore, his majesty added, Israel continues its refusal to negotiate with the Palestine Liberation Organization so as to reach peace despite the fact that the PLO is sincere in its desire for peace [sentence as heard]. His majesty noted that the Palestinian uprising started 2 years ago to end all Israeli hopes that the Palestinians would accept or submit to the status quo.

The uprising, his majesty went on to say, has come to prove beyond any doubt that the Palestinians would not leave their homeland and would rather die than relinquish. The uprising, his majesty said, is an historic turning point in the Palestinian struggle and is a crowning of the epic of the struggle all the more so because of the great sacrifices the Palestinians have made for the sake of their national cause.

His majesty said that Jordan will continue to render full support to the just struggle of the Palestinian people. Therefore, his majesty added, it decided last July to sever legal and administrative ties with the West Bank in response to the wishes of the Palestinians, thereby giving momentum to their struggle, boosting their national identity, and consequently making a qualititative contribution to peace.

His majesty went on to say that the Palestinian people who have suffered a great deal and gave enormous sacrifices are entitled to security and stability, freedom and peace in an independent state like other peoples. Therefore, we appeal to the United Nations, which represents the will of the international community to boost its efforts and expedite work to achieve the just, peaceful, and durable settlement of the Arab-Israeli dispute. His majesty explained that the settlement should guarantee the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people, particularly their right to self- determination and the establishment of their independent state on their national soil as well as the right of all states and peoples of the region to live in peace.

Islamist MP's Give Month's Salary to Intifadah

JN3011081889 Amman JORDAN TIMES in English 30 Nov 89 p 3

[Article by Nirmin Murad: "Islamists Take Early Initiative in Parliament"]

[Text] Amman—Lower House of Parliament members affiliated with the Muslim Brotherhood movement have not wasted time proving that they are active members who have ideas and initiatives of their own and will not wait idly until things are proposed by others.

One day after their candidate for the speakership of the Lower House lost the race in face of a coalition of independents with the 16-member democratic bloc, the 22 Muslim Brotherhood deputies adopted measures to be heard and recognised for their "blessed deeds," according to one of the Islamist representatives.

According to the representative, who is not authorised to speak on behalf of the Islamist group as part of an agreement among its members that the role of press spokesman be delegated to Parliament member 'Abd-al-Latif 'Arabiyat, the 22 members have already informed Lower House Speaker Sulayman 'Arar of their wish to donate one month's salary (JD 500 each) to "support the intifadah in the Israeli-occupied territories."

The petition left the option open to the speaker to decide whether the money will be taken in one lump sum or on monthly instalments.

According to the deputy, the group also submitted a two-page handwritten letter to 'Arar urging him "to find immediate solutions to the economic and financial situation in the country."

Although the exact text of the letter was not immediately available to the press, the representative said that the letter also called for "finding solutions for the unemployment problem." In their election campaigns, the Muslim Brotherhood candidates prepared a long list of demands pertaining to the national debt and the financial situation in the Kingdom. Paramount among their demands then was an investigation of corruption and channels of public spending to determine the cause of the mismanagement of funds and that those behind it be prosecuted.

Sources close to the Brotherhood movement maintained that these demands were reiterated in the letter submitted to 'Arar Tuesday. [28 November] The Islamist representatives have maintained that billions of dollars were smuggled outside the country which "was one of the main reasons behind the devaluation of the dinar," an Islamist representative said.

In their economic programme, the Islamists called for developing the public sector based on new foundations of honest transactions and encouraging trust between the private sector and government "to allow the government to benefit from the citizen's efforts and capabilities and allow the citizen to benefit from the government's support and services."

The Islamists called for stabilising imports, exports and production "within a studied and balanced national plan."

They place particular attention on solving the growing problem of unemployment in the Kingdom because of what they describe as "the social effects of poverty, the least of which is stealing, decrease of the number of marriages and retardation of the development of the society through lack of education," an Islamist representative said.

Ja'ja' To Defend Eastern Area 'Until the End'

NC2911154789 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1450 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Lebanese Forces Commander Dr Samir Ja'ja' has announced that the Lebanese are depending on President Ilyas al-Hirawi to defend them. He said Al-Hirawi is a native of the eastern area, which remains in his heart and mind. Dr Ja'ja' affirmed that the Lebanese Forces, which were the first to defend the free areas during the war years, will defend these areas alongside the Lebanese army until the end. Here is what Dr Ja'ja' said at his news conference this afternoon:

[Begin Ja'ja' recording] I personally have been silent for a long time. I have been silent because we, the Lebanese Forces, consider ourselves the mother of the child. Today, because we consider ourselves as the mother of the child, we are going to speak.

For the last 1 or 2 months, everyone has been hearing about military concentrations. The atmosphere has become tense. There have been threats and counterthreats. The fate of the eastern area has been raised for discussion. In the midst of these events, some have asked about the position of the Lebanese Forces.

I emphatically deny that anyone should have any questions about the stand of the Lebanese Forces. If there are people who still do not know the Lebanese Forces' position at such a stage and such a time, then they do not know what the Lebanese Forces are, what the eastern area is, what Lebanon is, and what is going on in politics. Brothers, the eastern area is the Lebanese Forces. It was the Lebanese Forces who made the eastern area what it is today.

During the 2-year war, all state institutions collapsed. A number of young people took it upon themselves to defend the free areas and Lebanon's dignity, freedom, sovereignty, and independence with the only means at their disposal. After the 2-year war, when everyone was lauding the Syrians, battles were taking place with them in al-Ashrafiyah and Billa. If anyone remembers, the first serious military battle with the Syrians took place in Billa in 1977, and in al-Ashrafiyah in 1978. It was Bashir al-Jumayyil and his comrades who drove them out of al-Ashrafiyah. In 1983, they crucified us and left us in the Mountain. They crucified us in Bhamdun, to be precise. We continued to defend it until our last breath.

We were the ones who ended the tripartite agreement. It was we who prevented Sulayman Franjiyah and Mikha'il Dahir from reaching the presidency. We reject any threat to the eastern area. We, the Lebanese Forces, regard ourselves as responsible for every inch, every citizen, and every house in this area. We are responsible for every institution, every mother, every child, and every farmer. We will defend this area until our last breath. We will not accept that it be threatened by anyone. [applause] I am sure that many people cannot forget so easily. Some people may have short memories, but I believe that the majority will not forget so easily. Some people may not be able to perceive the future, but I believe that many can perceive the future, including the distant future. From this premise, I consider myself and the Lebanese Forces responsible for each one of our villages. I consider myself committed to the defense of Suq al-Gharb, Dahr al-Wahsh, al-Duwwar, Sannin, al-'Aqurah, and al-Madfun. I consider myself responsible for every soldier and officer in the Lebanese army. Last night, I summoned the Lebanese Forces general staff and gave them complete orders to be prepared and to stand alongside their comrades in the Lebanese army in defense of the eastern area. [applause]

Within this context, we will use all available means to defend Lebanon. Within this particular context, we want to use all political and military means, all our contacts, all our resources, and all our weight to try to prevent any attack or to confront any attack that could possibly be launched against the eastern area. Within this particular context, we will not refrain from doing anything or saying anything that will prompt a confrontation. It is within this particular context that I say that President Ilyas al-Hirawi is the son of the eastern area. I say that the eastern area is in his heart and in his soul. We are relying on our intrinsic strength in the confrontation and, in the same way, we are relying on President al-Hirawi in particular to defend and protect the eastern area.

Brothers, I believe that the situation is delicate, but there is no need for anyone to be frightened. There is no need for anyone to worry. If we know how to harness all our political resources, how to harness all our military capability, and how to rally around each other, then I am confident that, just as we saved Lebanon in past crises, we will able to save Lebanon this time without much difficulty. Long life to you. Long live Lebanon. [applause] [end recording]

Dr Ja'ja' stressed that we can overcome all dangers through our unity and cohesiveness and that no one should be frightened. He added that every problem has a solution and that we must first of all be united so as to find solutions to all problems. He promised to have more meetings with the press in the future to explain the Lebanese Forces' stand.

Phalangist Party Vows To Protect Eastern Area

NC2911151489 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1415 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] The Phalangist Party Political Bureau held an extraordinary meeting under deputy party leader attorney Munir al-Haj at 1200 today. The meeting was devoted to a discussion of current events and developments. The conferees evaluated the series of contacts and consultations which party officials have held in the past 2 days. Following the 3-hour meeting, the following statement was issued:

1. The Phalangist Party considers that top priority should be given to preventing a military confrontation and a renewal of war.

2. The free area is a trust for all free strugglers. Therefore, the Phalangist Party considers the present moment to be one of mobilizing all resources and capabilities without exception in the face of any attempt to penetrate this area. In line with its national and historic principles, the Phalangist Party will be in the forefront of those who will defend this area as a base of freedom and steadfastness for the sake of sovereignty and the liberation of all Lebanon.

3. The Phalangist Party accepted the al-Ta'if plan on the basis that it is a plan of entente and peace and not a plan of war. The Lebanese should rally around the al-Ta'if accord of their own free will and without coercion. Therefore, the Phalangist Party still considers the letter and spirit of the al-Ta'if accord, as well as the guarantees that accompanied it, as a possible and acceptable political solution. It also still believes that this plan can have positive effects if we manifest unity of ranks and stands and pay special attention to the delicacy of the situation and the dimensions of the plot of which Lebanon has been the victim for more than 14 years.

4. The Phalangist Party strongly draws the attention of the Lebanese to the dangers inherent in the resumption of war, to the dangers of partition, and to the dangers of positions which would lead to a stalemate. The way to avert all this is through dialogue and flexibility, a democratic approach, and negotiation to end the crisis. Therefore, the Phalangist Party calls on everyone, without exception, to adopt this approach to rescue Lebanon.

RFL Cites Report on Syrian Troop Movements

NC2911174789 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 1645 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] AP reports that Syrian forces today took up combat positions opposite the positions of the army loyal to General 'Awn, apparently in preparation for an attempt to seize control of the presidential palace.

AP indicates that Gen 'Awn's 20,000 soldiers have been placed on maximum alert and that they have fortified their defensive positions in Suq al-Gharb, upper al-Matn, and Beirut.

Citing military sources in both West and East Beirut, AP says that the Syrians have brought T-55 tanks to the Beirut fronts and T-62 tanks to the Mountain fronts.

'Awn Supporters Gather; Syria Continues Buildup

NC2911195689 Paris AFP in English 1942 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Excerpts] Beirut, Nov 29 (AFP)—About 100,000 supporters of General Michel 'Awn massed around his headquarters Wednesday and Christian militia and political groups said they would rally to his side if Syrian forces attacked.

Faced with the outpouring of support for the general, the new Syrian-backed government sought to dampen fears of a military confrontation, saying "there will be no invasion" of Christian-held areas.

But witnesses said Syrian troops and equipment were continuing to build up on the edges of regions controlled by Gen. 'Awn, particularly close to the B'abda presidential palace where he is entrenched.

At barricades in mainly Moslem West Beirut, Syrian troops were heard advising residents to go home, saying that fighting was imminent. [passage omitted]

The general's supporters formed a human barricade around the palace, located on a wooded hill in the southeastern suburbs of the capital, bringing traffic to a standstill and turning hillsides black with people.

They waved Lebanese flags and thousands of portraits of Gen. 'Awn and shouted: "With our soul, with our blood, we will defend you, general."

"Let the Syrians attack if they dare. They will first have to massacre us before the eyes of the whole world," said one youth as he prepared to camp outside the building for a third night of vigil.

"We are here to support the general," another said, "but we do not want him to yield or negotiate. It is he who follows the people, not otherwise." [passage omitted]

Information Minister's Statement on Situation

NC2911210889 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Statement by Information Minister Edmond Rizq at a news conference at the Information Ministry in West Beirut on 29 November—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Passage omitted] On this occasion, I would like to make a spontaneous address to the Lebanese people, to our kinsmen wherever they are. We are living through [word indistinct], serious, and fateful hours. [passage indistinct] The measures which the government has adopted and intends to adopt have only one aim: to reunify the Lebanese homeland, revive the state's legitimate institutions, and establish peace in Lebanon. [Passage indistinct] and there is no reason for fear. On the contrary, there is good cause for optimism. [passage omitted]

There will be no invasion of the eastern area. Remarks about a plan to invade the eastern area indicate bad intentions, provocation, and psychological incitement aimed at frustrating the peace efforts in Lebanon. Those who said that there is a plan to invade the eastern area are misleading themselves or are misleading others. This

government has only one intention and that is to establish peace [words indistinct] and restore normal life in all Lebanese areas. [passage omitted]

General 'Awn, who has assumed the post of army commander for a number of years as well as additional responsibilities, is called upon today to act in a way that will safeguard the unity of the Lebanese army and the Lebanese homeland. We ask Gen 'Awn to stop casting doubt on Lebanon's unity and work [words indistinct]. He should stop using slogans which he knows are unrealistic. He should stop involving the people in adventures, the results of which are known. We ask Gen 'Awn, relying on what faith in the homeland, what love for and loyalty to the army, and what concern for the Lebanese people is left in him, not to continue along the course of escalation, because it is not the Lebanese people's fate to continue fighting each other. We have had enough killing. The death option is not an option; the death decision is not a decision. The clamor for suicide is not permissible, and dragging the people to ruin cannot be tolerated. [passage omitted]

We accepted participation in the government to stop massacres and killing and to restore normal life. We have lived in a jungle for 15 years. This is enough. We must go back to living under a unified government. What are we offering? We are offering a chance to ourselves and to our people to establish a civilized state that uses civilized means. [passage omitted]

What are we offering? Are we offering occupation? We are offering a possibility to end the occupation. We are offering sovereignty and the opportunity to regain sovereignty. [Words indistinct] only through national accord and the use of positive means can we regain Lebanese sovereignty. No one is bringing foreign forces and telling them come occupy or stay in Lebanon. But we are trying to find the way to deal appropriately with every reality. Here I want to stress that the appropriate way to deal with the Syrian forces' presence in Lebanon is the way of Arab consensus, international support, and our common conviction about the need for brotherly, sound, organized, and orderly relations between us and Syria.

Brothers, we must not create fear among the people so that we can control their fate by exploiting this fear. [passage omitted]

The government of Dr Salim al-Huss does not want war and was not formed for the sake of war. It was formed for the sake of peace. We did not accept our portfolios to invade the eastern area. We will sacrifice our blood for the eastern area, for every part of Lebanon, and for every Lebanese citizen. It is a shame to gather the people and make human barricades out of them to maintain position and authority. Authority in Lebanon can be assumed only through democratic means. [passage omitted]

Our weapon is the word and nothing but the word. My weapon is the word, and our government believes that peace among the Lebanese is possible through dialogue, this dialogue which we began for the first time in 15 years in al-Ta'if. [passage omitted]

I hope that my words will be enough to convince us to end the process of escalation, tension, disobedience, and mutiny and regroup under the banner of the one president of our republic. [passage omitted]

Al-Huss Discusses Unity, Policy Toward 'Awn

NC3011105489 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1000 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] Prime Minister Dr Salim Al-Huss met with the minister of health and tourism today. The talks dealt with the current state of affairs in light of the continuing rebellion and the blatant French interference in favor of the partitionist side. Dr Al-Huss also met with Economy Minister Dr Nazih Al-Bizri.

Speaking to journalists, Dr Al-Huss said: Our principal concern is to unify the country. Unity can only be established where there is understanding and accord. Therefore, we are anxious to abide by the logic of openness and avoid the logic of provocation and escalation.

In his remarks, Dr Al-Huss added: Unity dictates the elimination of every show of division and partition, particularly that exemplified by the phenomenon of former army commander General Michel 'Awn. Dr Al-Huss emphasized that the government will not spare any means that are available to the legitimate authority to end this phenomenon politically and peacefully. He went on to say: We are confident that this will be adequate and that there will be no need for any military action.

In response to a question, Dr Al-Huss said: We do not believe that Gen 'Awn can proceed with his intransigent and stubborn stand and continue to challenge the desire for accord and the people's wager on the return of unity and security to Lebanon. But, Dr Al-Huss added, if 'Awn perists in his wrong course he will be considered an outlaw and be treated as such, on both local and external levels.

Minister Al-Bizri on Return of B'abda Palace

NC3011070689 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 0615 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] Minister Nazih Al-Bizri has said that the return of the B'abda Palace to the legitimate authority will take place through the available means and with the utmost speed. He emphasized that President Ilyas Al-Hirawi will chair cabinet meetings at B'abda Palace.

French Parliamentarians Conclude Ba'abda Visit

Meet With Michel 'Awn

NC2911195089 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Eleven members of the French parliamentary delegation met for 2 hours with Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn in B'abda this evening, where thousands of people are continuing their sit-in around the presidential palace.

After the meeting, French Deputy (Philippe de Valier) said that the struggle in Lebanon is a struggle for freedom. He added that the French deputies will convey what they have seen to the French authorities. He indicated that the French delegation has decided to stage an all-night sit-in in the presidential palace courtyard.

Another 19 French deputies had visited Gen 'Awn earlier today and then proceeded to Bkirki, where they met with Maronite Patriarch Nasrallah Sfayr.

Deputies Return to Paris

NC3011080889 (Clandestine) Radio Free Lebanon in Arabic 0545 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] Some members of the French parliamentary delegation left Beirut last night after holding meetings with Prime Minister General Michel 'Awn and Patriarch Sfayr. Other French deputies took part in the sit-in around B'abda Palace last night. The second group of French parliamentarians is due to leave Lebanon for Paris today.

Meanwhile, the general strike and sit-in around the Presidential Palace will continue for the 3d day running. Students, teachers, and citizens have been urged to take part in the sit-in, scheduled to be staged today.

Birri Claims France 'Continuing the Crusades'

NC2911181489 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 1630 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Excerpts] President Ilyas Al-Hirawi this afternoon received Nabih Birri, minister of hydroelectric resources, housing, and cooperatives, in the Ablah barracks in al-Biqa' and discussed current developments. [passage omitted]

Commenting after the meeting, Minister Birri said: I did not discuss the question of my participation in the government as the Amal Movement's political bureau will be meeting tomorrow to make a decision. The decision will undoubtedly be consistent with the course for unity in Lebanon. The Amal Movement is a pro-unity movement which has sacrificed a great deal. It is resisting Israel and has resisted many separatist movements to safeguard Lebanon's unity. It would make no sense for us to waver now regarding this political mission. [passage omitted]

Asked about the fear of a military solution within the next 2 days, Minister Birri said: The last resort is cauterization.

Regarding the political efforts being made to resolve the problem by peaceful means, Minister Birri said: We support this. We are not in favor of fighting. We have fought enough in the past 15 years. But when it is not possible to achieve this, then cauterization is necessary, as I have already said.

Asked about the French position and its influence on the Lebanese situation, Minister Birri said: France is still the France of 1943. We regret that French socialism is actually continuing the Crusades in Lebanon. He noted that France still thinks it is living in the time of mandates. The French position will harm France and naturally Lebanon as well. The days of the mandate are over, he said, adding that the role which France is playing on behalf Lebanon and political Maronism is exactly the same role which Washington plays on behalf of Zionism.

Al-Husayni Criticizes French Deputies' Visit

NC2911191889 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1715 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Chamber of Deputies Speaker Husayn Al-Husayni has strongly criticized the visit by a French parliamentary delegation to Lebanon. He appealed to the Arab parliaments and the International Parliamentary Union to stop what he termed the comedy being enacted by these deputies who have infiltrated surreptitiously and without the knowledge of the legitimate authorities. Al-Husayni emphasized the legitimate authority's determination to regain its authority to unite the country.

Al-Husayni has sent a message to the president of the French Parliament, Roland Fabius, on the French parliamentarians' entry into Lebanon.

Ministry, Al-Huss Decry French Deputies' Visit

NC3011072289 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 0530 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] The Foreign and Expatriates Ministry has expressed surprise at the visit by French deputies to General Michel 'Awn, describing it as a blatant interference in Lebanon's domestic affairs. The ministry stressed that there is no justification for this visit, which goes against the official French stand in support of Lebanese legitimacy. It emphasized that the Lebanese reject any move that might obstruct the peace process in Lebanon.

In his capacity as foreign minister, Prime Minister Dr Salim Al-Huss has summoned Lebanon's Ambassador to France Fu'ad Al-Turk to Beirut. Foreign Ministry sources said that the reason for the recall is to ask Amabassador Al-Turk about the circumstances of the illegal entry of the French delegation into Lebanon. The ministry also wishes to know why Lebanese passports

were granted to some members of the delegation and entry visas to others without the matter having been referred to official quarters.

UN Mission To Lodge Complaint Against Israel

NC2911113189 Beirut Voice of National Resistance in Arabic 1030 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] The Foreign Ministry has requested the Lebanese mission to the United Nations to lodge a strongly worded urgent complaint against Israel, condemning its crime of killing two detainees and wounding five others in al-Khiyam prison.

The Foreign Ministry also asked its mission to coordinate with the Arab League and Arab missions in New York to launch a media campaign publicizing the tragic situation of the detainees, and asked it to raise the issue at the UN General Assembly's special committee.

Israeli Troops Stage Artillery Attacks in South

PFLP-GC Reports Shelling

JN2911155489 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1442 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] A military spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command [PFLP-GC] has stated the following: As of 1500 today, 29 November 1989, the Zionist enemy, using 175-mm artillery guns, has been shelling the PFLP-GC bases and positions in the Western al-Biqa' area. The enemy is using fragmentation bombs. We have sustained no losses and morale is high. God supports us and victory is imminent. Let us proceed together down the road toward liberating the people and the land.

Further Details on Shelling

JN2911173289 (Clandestine) Al-Quds Palestinian Arab Radio in Arabic 1707 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] We received the following statement from the military spokesman for the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine- General Command [PFLP-GC] at 1615 today. The statement says that the artillery shelling continues against the Lusia area, and the enemy until now has fired 30 shells. The spokesman added: These recurrent Zionist attacks, which the enemy has been carrying out against our positions and bases, will only make us more determined and more committed to our principles and stands of rejecting the Zionist enemy's humiliating and capitulatory schemes. These attacks will also further entrench our steps on the road to pursuing the armed struggle, the only road to the liberation of Palestine. We pledge to pursue the struggle on the road to liberating land and man.

[Signed] The Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command

UNIFIL Confirms Attacks

TA2911182689 Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1800 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] REUTER has cited sources in al-Biqa' in Lebanon saying that the IDF [Israel Defense Forces] today shelled several villages north of the security strip, as well as a base serving Jibril's men near al-Sultan Ya'qub. An officer from the Norwegian contingent of the UN Interim Force in Lebanon [UNIFIL] confirmed to our correspondent Hayim Hecht that IDF artillery indeed shelled sites north of the security strip today.

A large roadside bomb exploded near the village of Rshaf this afternoon. No one was hurt. Amal says its men were responsible for the act.

Palestinian Killed in Shelling

NC2911200089 Beirut Voice of Lebanon in Arabic 1915 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Israeli forces in the security zone in the south shelled bases of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine [as heard] in the village of al-Sultan Ya'qub in al-Biqa', killing one Palestinian and wounding two civilians.

Shelling Continues for 2d Day

NC3011135289 Paris AFP in English 1303 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] Rashayya, Lebanon, Nov 30 (AFP)—Israeli artillery pounded a sector of Lebanon's eastern al-Biqa' Valley Thursday, near regions controlled by Syrian troops, police here said.

The attack was the second in as many days on the region, where Palestinian factions and the pro-Iranian Hizballah movements also have positions, although Thursday's target was not specified.

It also came one day after Israel's air force commander, General Avihu Bin-Nun, expressed concern about possible clashes between Israeli and Syrian aircraft over Lebanese airspace.

The Israeli officer made the remark amid reports from Lebanon of a Syrian military build-up around territory east and north of Beirut held by Lebanese Christian military leader General Michel 'Awn.

The reported build-up has been accompanied by heightened tension as Lebanon's new president, Ilyas Al-Hirawi, and his Syrian-backed government threatened to use force to oust Gen. 'Awn from the B'abda presidential palace.

On Wednesday Israeli artillery hit a position of the Popular Front for the Liberation of Palestine-General Command (PFLP-GC) at al-Sultan Ya'qub near here, wounding a Palestinian fighter and two civilians, police said.

Overnight Wednesday, the Israeli troops deployed in their self-styled "security zone" south of here lobbed 10 shells at the al-Sultan Ya'qub Kamid al-Lawz communities.

The troops then turned their guns at the sector grouping the villages of Mashgharah, 'Ayn al-Tinah, and Qilya near where units of the 35,000 Syrian contingent in Lebanon are deployed.

Hizballah also maintains a strong presence in the area.

The Palestinian base hit on Wednesday was also raided by Israeli jets last Thursday and Saturday. Five Palestinian fighters were hurt. Saturday's raid was backed by artillery fire from the Israeli-imposed "security zone."

Charge Detonated Near Israeli Patrol in South

NC2911204789 Beirut Domestic Service in Arabic 2000 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] A resistance group has detonated an explosive charge near an Israeli patrol on the Dibil-Rshaf road in the south, destroying one troop carrier, damaging another, and killing or wounding their passengers.

According to reports received from the south and western al- Biqa', since 1000 today the Israeli occupation forces have been using heavy artillery to shell Birkat Jabbur, the outskirts of Mashgharah and Maydun, the al-Litani River basin, Lusi, and al-Sultan Ya'qub from their positions in Ibil al-Saqy plain and the Kafr Huna triangle.

According to security reports, the occupation forces have been massing armored vehicles and artillery in the area. The Israeli armored vehicles and artillery have been positioned in the areas of Hasbayya, al-Ahmadiyah hills, and Taw'amat Niha.

Paper Reports Hizballah Leadership Changes

JN2811213589 Kuwait AL-ANBA' in Arabic 27 Nov 89 pp 1, 30

[Unattributed report]

[Text] Four major leaders of Lebanon's Hizballah have been dismissed recently as part of changes linked to the shift in balance of power in Tehran and to internal developments related to the party's structure in Lebanon.

Those dismissed are Ibrahim Al-Amin, Consultative Council member and information spokesman; Husayn Al-Musawi, who returned to Islamic Amal; Husayn Khalil, a prominent military official; and 'Abd-al-Hadi Hammadi, a security official who has enjoyed international renown since the kidnapping of West German hostages in Beirut in response to his apprehension over the involvement of at least one of his two brothers in Germany in the killing of an American aboard a hijacked U.S. airliner at Beirut airport in 1985.

The changes have bolstered the position of Shaykh Subhi Al-Tufayli and Shaykh Na'im Qasim in the party's leadership and the Consultative Council. This has also bolstered the position of Hasan Nasrallah.

These changes followed a visit by Mohtashemi, former Iranian interior minister, to Ba'labakk, where he spent nearly 2 weeks.

Mohtashemi represents the Iranian hardliners, and he was excluded from the government upon the insistence of President Hashemi-Rafsanjani.

The new leadership of Lebanon's Hizballah can be considered closer to Tehran hardliners than to Hashemi-Rafsanjani. However, this is not the only factor that prompted these changes. In the cases of 'Abd-al-Hadi Hammadi and Husayn Khalil, security infiltrations into party ranks, which were discovered after a failed attempt to assassinate Muhammad Husayn Fadlallah, played a major role.

Informed party sources say that Husayn Khalil's brother was arrested in connection with this case. Someone named Ja'far al-Tayyar, a major culprit, and a person who had explosives prepared for the assassination of Fadlallah, were arrested. The latter is from the Hamdar family.

Junblatt Addresses 11th Brigade at Hammana

NC2911142389 (Clandestine) Voice of the Mountain in Arabic to Lebanon 1230 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Walid Junblatt, Progressive Socialist Party [PSP] leader, has visited the Hammana barracks. He was accompanied by Lieutenant Colonel Raja Harb, commander of the Popular Liberation Army—Martyr Kamal Junblatt forces; George Hawi, secretary general of the Lebanese Communist Party; and PSP Political Bureau member Ilyas 'Atallah.

Junblatt met with officers and soldiers and delivered the following speech: From here, from this position, the first spark was ignited in 1983 in an effort to build the Arab Lebanese army, to correct the army's course, and to join it with the nationalist forces so that we can stand in the same trench and rank in the effort to liberate the south. Dozens of soldiers from the 11th Brigade and the nationalist brigades were martyred or wounded on the battle fronts. But today, he added, matters are clear. The legitimate government exists. An honest commander has been chosen for the army. He is Emile Lahhud.

Junblatt went on to say: Michel 'Awn will not leave easily. What we are required to do is to undertake the national role of establishing the legitimate authority in B'abda and al-Yarzah. You do not lack manhood or courage. But we must compete so that the battle to uproot the germ and worm, to uproot Michel 'Awn, will be a quick one. Michel 'Awn has equipment and men and has degraded the military establishment. The one who killed Rashid Karami and Rene Mu'awwad is not protecting the military establishment that is now commanded by an officer who has all the required attributes,

particularly the moral ones. I salute you and all the honest soldiers in all positions and barracks. I thank Major General Sami al-Khatib for his great efforts to merge the units and to introduce new blood into the army.

Radio Commentary Advocates Dialogue Over War

NC2911092689 Ihdin Radio of Free and Unified Lebanon in Arabic 0700 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Radio commentary: "Safety Is in Prudence"]

[Text] Soon after the renewed talk of possible confrontations or a military clash in Lebanon, the do-gooders and those eager to keep Lebanon unified became active in a bid to restore the language of sensible and logical dialogue in place of the language of confrontation and (?military clashes). After 15 years of war, destruction, and tragedy, everyone now realizes that guns, rockets, tanks, and even aircraft cannot solve the Lebanese problem. Rather, they contribute further to the destruction, ruin, and disintegration of the homeland, as well as engendering division between its sons.

Is this what we must reap following all the good efforts, contacts, and meetings that resulted in approving and endorsing the al-Ta'if document? Is this what we must reap after filling the constitutional vacuum, after forming the national unity government which led to satisfaction and a feeling of tranquility within those near and far and all friends in the world? Why are there attempts to go backward, and why the threat of war? Why fill souls with hatred again? In whose interests is it to talk about a war that might last 100 years and result in the partition of Lebanon?

The answer to all these questions is a return to the spirit of moderation and the logic of reasonable dialogue, which alone will lead to attaining the goals and aims that we all seek and cherish—goals which are represented in safeguarding a free, unified, sovereign, and independent Lebanon. Such a Lebanon can be established through reasonable dialogue, national accord, coexistence, and mutual trust. Extremism will only lead to more extremism. Speaking with the gun will only lead to further violence. On the other hand, moderation will lead to moderation. When moderation prevails, it will be possible to prudently reach an understanding on all issues and affairs. Consequently, it will be possible to reach those common denominators that help achieve solutions acceptable to all. Moreover, it will be possible to achieve the dialogue of reason and logic, which prompts everyone to make concessions in the interests of the homeland rather than cling to their personal interests.

After the calamities that we suffered during the past 15 years, it is a pity that we should think again about resorting to violence as a means to solve the crisis. It is a shame that we should shed more innocent blood. It is a shame that we should destroy the temple over our heads. The Lebanese entity and its permanence as a unified country is now threatened as a result of the U.S.-Zionist plot that seeks to partition Lebanon and settle the Palestinians in it. The responsibility is great. What is most important, however, is that safeguarding Lebanon is the responsibility of the Lebanese alone. Will the Lebanese move to rescue their homeland before it is too late?

Correction to Ja'ja' To Defend 'Free Areas'

NC2911154489

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "Ja'ja's Lebanese Forces To Defend 'Free Areas'" published in the 29 November Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, page 39:

paragraph one, last sentence, make read: ...last breath as they defended them during the 2-year war and ever since on all fronts... (rewording).

Media See 'Awn as Obstacle to Reconciliation

'Awn in 'State of Rebellion'

JN3011101889 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 30 Nov 89

[From the press review]

[Text] Under the headline "Legitimacy Is Entrenching, and the Insurgence Is Definitely Disappearing," AL-BA'TH says: Everybody in Lebanon is declaring support for legitimacy and the establishment of the state's sovereignty throughout Lebanese territory. Most nations have welcomed the election of a president of the republic and the formation of the national reconciliation government. They see this as the basis for achieving accord and saving Lebanon from its crisis. However, 'Awn is placing himself as an obstacle in the way of national accord, the revival of the state, and the establishment of legitimacy over the entire Lebanese territory. This is despite all his past false allegations of eagerness to revive the Lebanese state, unify Lebanon, and activate the legitimate institutions.

AL-BA'TH adds: After all his claims have collapsed, this rebel is the last person to talk about legitimacy derived from the people. The paper explains 'Awn used to claim his legitimacy was derived from the House of Deputies, which elected former Lebanese President Amin al-Jumayyil, who, in turn, entrusted him [to form a government] through an official decree. If we, for the sake of argument, accept that 'Awn gained his legitimacy according to this principle, then, according to the Lebanese Constitution, his duties ended with the election of a president of the Republic. The House of Deputies, which possesses the legitimate authority, actually has elected a president of the Republic. 'Awn's refusal to comply with this legitimacy, then, is a rebellion against legitimacy and military regulations. He bears the full responsibility for all the ramifications of this disobedience, because this legitimacy is capable of making someone who rebels against the homeland realize the al-Ta'if charter was achieved in order to be fully implemented, and that the acts of disorder, hysteria, and agitation neither can give legitimacy to anyone nor protect anybody.

Discussing the same subject, TISHRIN says: After the election of a new president of the Republic in Lebanon, the formation of a national reconciliation government, the appointment of General Emile Lahhud as the new Army commander, and the placement of 'Awn at the disposal of the Lebanese minister of defense, it is clear 'Awn's position now constitutes a state of rebellion against legitimate authority. He is seeking to form an unhealthy separatist phenomenon while he entrenches himself in the hideouts of the B'abda Palace and asks youngsters to assemble around him to form a human barricade to hinder the legitimate authority's duty of restoring sovereignty all over Lebanese soil.

'Awn Should Be Removed

JN2911090889 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 0530 GMT 29 Nov 89

[From the press review]

[Text] TISHRIN says: There is a Lebanese, Arab, and international unanimity of feeling 'Awn has become a rebel against legitimacy and its institutions, and that he has violated the law and all national and humanitarian values. He moreover has caused severe damage to Lebanon—people and land—and pushed the partitionist plot forward. He also has tried to separate Lebanon from its Arab body. At the same time, he had dealings with Lebanon's mortal enemy, Israel, which harbors evil intentions against this country. He also maintains ties with the Iraqi regime, which started the fire of hatred and ill will in Lebanon.

TISHRIN continues: The Lebanese people's determination to end 'Awn and liquidate his stooges means they insist on getting rid of the sedition and source of evil and eliminating the roots of the tragedy that has swept Lebanon over the past 1 ½ decades. Lebanon is experiencing a splendid national awakening shown in its insistence on overcoming the symbols of the ugly past, foremost of which is 'Awn. This awakening certainly will clean the land of the Cedar of all traces of barbaric Zionism and its puppet agents, who have sold their souls and consciences.

TISHRIN concludes: Syria, which has supported Lebanon under the darkest circumstances, will not abandon it today. Syria will extend every support to help Lebanon rid itself of the claws of Zionism and its tools and to welcome the ship of salvation, now reaching the shore of safety and peace.

Under the headline "No Place for Abnormals and Rebels," AL-THAWRAH says: 'Awn, who is completely isolated in the Lebanese arena, used the ugliest kind of terrorism against the Lebanese, its parliamentary leaders, and its spiritual symbols, and he assassinated Rene Mu'awwad, the symbol of accord and national unity. He now wants to thwart responsible actions toward Lebanon, which have exposed his efforts to hamper accord and solution, by seeking the help of Israel and the Iraqi regime, by starting new fires, and by returning Lebanon to the maelstrom of fighting and the war of destruction—because he sees in such action an end to his crisis and isolation.

AL-THAWRASH adds: Undoubtedly, Lebanon's people, who have reached unanimity on the need to achieve accord and a solution to the crisis, will not place their fate and the future of their country and homeland at the mercy of a reckless, foolish, and power-craving general, who has proven he does not want salvation for Lebanon or accord and coexistence for the Lebanese. 'Awn will soon understand the meaning of the Lebanese people's insistence on choosing accord and national

solution, in which there is no place for abnormals, outlaws, and rebels against legitimacy.

Al-Ahmar Addresses Ba'th Party Session

JN2911212289 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1615 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Comrade 'Abdallah al-Ahmar, Ba'th Party assistant secretary general, met at noon today with comrades participating in the central party orientation session at the Higher Political Sciences Institute. The meeting was attended by Comrade 'Atiyyah al-Judi, director of the Cultural and Studies Bureau at the Ba'th Party National Command, the comrade members of the branch leadership, the dean of the institute, and a number of the institute's teaching staff.

At the outset of his speech, Comrade al-Ahmar conveyed the greetings of comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad, the party secretary general, and president of the republic, to the comrades participating in the session. After listening to the views and questions of the comrades in the session concerning its course and results, Comrade al-Ahmar reviewed our party's militant tasks in the organizational field, the mass action, and the transformations it has realized on all levels under the canopy of the revolution and under Ba'th Party Secretary General comrade struggler Hafiz al-Asad. He said one of the results of this revolution has been the delineation of our firm course toward building the society of progress and socialism.

Comrade al-Ahmar emphasized the intrinsic ability of our people and country, and the ever-increasing development of this ability, as well as the importance of depending on it to overcome the transient difficulties and secure steadfastness requisites for confronting our enemies and fulfill our people's aspirations. Comrade al-Ahmar reviewed political developments in the region and conspiratorial endeavors of enemy forces represented by Zionism and imperialism to peddle capitulationist plans, subjugate the Arab nation, and impose the schemes of hegemony and expansionism on it.

The comrade assistant secretary general of the party spoke about the latest developments in the Lebanese arena, particularly following the approval of the al-Ta'if agreement and whatever steps have been taken to implement this agreement. According to this agreement, a president of the republic was elected and the national accord government was formed, which began to carry out reforms, and is working to end the state of insubordination represented by 'Awn, who carries out schemes that are hostile to Lebanon and to the Arab nation. Comrade al-Ahmar said: The Lebanese people's aspirations, backed on the Arab and international levels, daily are being consolidated with every step the national accord government takes and with whatever measures it takes to regain Lebanon' unity, spread the legitimate authority on its territory, and liberate its southern territory from Israeli occupation. Syria, he added, as its leader has asserted, will remain at the side of the Lebanese people and will extend all assistance to achieve national accord.

Comrade al-Ahmar affirmed Syria's support for the valiant intifadah that embodies the Arab people's militant course. At the end of the meeting, comrade al-Ahmar gave directives to the comrades that they should return to their work, having gained more expertise and culture to participate in developing their work and institutions.

Afghanistan

Najibullah's Message to Bush, Gorbachev

LD2911204189 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Message from President Najibullah to U.S. President George Bush and USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev, conveyed by Foreign Minister 'Abdul Wakil, in Dari—recorded]

[Text] Esteemed journalists and friends. The world is on the threshold of an important decade due to recent events. Mikhail Gorbachev, president of the USSR Supreme Soviet, and George Bush, President of the United States will hold their historical meeting and talks in a few days in the Mediterranean.

Holding talks between the heads of the two great countries of the world is not a new phenomenon. However, the meeting, which is being held under completely different conditions—conditions of unprecedented understanding and closeness between the East and West—enjoys exceptional importance. It seems that both countries are determined to end the confrontation policy of the blocs, reciprocal antagonism, and hostility and to base their relations on new criteria. The scheduled meeting has, on a whole, given rise to great anticipation, expectation, optimism, and hope in the world. The people of the world hope that the [words indistinct] sword of another world war will be taken away from over their heads forever. The government and the people of the Republic of Afghanistan are also hopeful of the results of the meeting between the leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States. They hope the meeting will help end the war and bloodshed in Afghanistan.

On the threshold of the meeting, regards have been sent from esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, addressed to M. Gorbachev and George Bush, the text of which I would like to convey to you.

In these messages we express the hope that the meeting between the leaders of two great countries of the world will help find a solution to one of the hottest regional conflicts, ending the war and killing in Afghanistan. We hope that as the general atmosphere of international relations is developing toward reconciliation, understanding, cooperation, and peaceful coexistence between all countries and peoples—in accordance with the most important demand of the people of Afghanistan and the world—the parties involved in the Afghanistan question, particularly the United States, should reconsider its policy of pursuing a military solution. As we have repeatedly stated and as the developments of recent months clearly show—since the withdrawal of the Soviet force—a comprehensive political solution to the question of Afghanistan can only be achieved through trust, dialogue, and negotiations between Afghans. The path of war only prolongs the great suffering of the Afghan people and further destroys the destroyed homeland of the Afghans.

The continued extensive military assistance to the extremist opposition and Pakistan and Saudi Arabia's collusion in open interference, which continue under the pretext of Soviet assistance to the legal government of the Republic of Afghanistan, not only does not help solve the problem, but further complicates the solution to the question of Afghanistan.

The Afghan Armed Forces' independent defense of the country's territorial integrity, independence, and national sovereignty shows that if the parties involved in the war want to impose their solution on us, in no way will we surrender to force and the imposition of the will of others. Time has shown that despite all the predictions, not only has the Republic of Afghanistan Government not collapsed, but the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, its political allies, the Afghan Armed Forces, and the entire sovereign political system of the country in a united, unified, and powerful way have rallied around the country's leadership, headed by esteemed Najibullah, president of Afghanistan, more than ever before and defended the country.

Once again I would like to emphasize that the war in Jalalabad, Qandahar, Khowst and other regions of the country clearly shows that the opposition is not capable of winning militarily. In these attacks they have not achieved anytthing but suffering, unprecedented heavy losses, chaos in their ranks, weak morale, and the intensification of clashes between them. The Republic of Afghanistan has shown that it has not only heroically defended itself, but has the potential and will to defend itself in the future, too. The opposition and its protectors—Pakistan, Saudi Arabia, and the United States—had banked on the fact that by changing their war tactics—intensifying highway robbery, blockading cities, and imposing heavy economic pressure on the Afghan people—they would succeed in achieving their goals.

However, thanks to the awareness, patience, and forbearance of the people and the Republic of Afghanistan Armed Forces these methods also failed. With the persuasion and assistance of Pakistan and Saudi Arabia, they tried to break our determination by raining rockets down on our cities and killing innocent people: children, war-weary men, and women. That tactic also earned them nothing but the increased hatred of the people. Therefore, those who promote the theory of a military solution, through any tactical method that is promoted, will be defeated and fail.

On the eve of the meeting of the U.S. and Soviet leaders, as cited in the messages of the president of Afghanistan, we expect from them, as the guarantors of the Geneva agreements, to fulfill their obligations, especially the United States, so that the other party to agreements, Pakistan, will also feel a responsibility to observe them.

Dear friends, I would like to remark clearly once again that despite the resistance of the extremist opposition leaders, the policy of national reconciliation has enhanced steadily among the inspired Afghan forces and

the tendency toward a political settlement on Afghanistan has become universal not only among the ranks and armed internal commanders of the opposition forces, but also the international level. It is considered the only alternative for a settlement to the problem of Afghanistan.

The resolution of the ninth Nonaligned Movement conference of heads of state and governments in Belgrade and also the resolution of the 44th UN General Assembly, which was approved unanimously by all UN members, are the manifestation of this tendency and world pressure for a political solution and the end to fratricide among Afghans. It can be resolutely said that any tendency, pressure, policy, or will which tries to impose anything other than peace on the Afghanistan people will face hatred and isolation in the world. I would like to express with satisfaction that voices raising hope can be heard from realistic circles in the West, even from some personalities, circles, and countries which were against the political solution until yesterday. We hope that this new development will not be confined merely to words and good wishes, but to practical acts as well.

On the eve of the meeting of the U.S. and Soviet leaders I would once again like to draw their attention to the proposals of the Government of the Republic of Afghanistan as they are reiterated in the message of the president of Afghanistan. We hope these proposals will be seriously considered and negotiated by the leaders of the United States and the Soviet Union. We have taken advantage of every opportunity to show our readiness to reach a political solution. The Republic of Afghanistan has used and tested every positive possibility, every contact, every likelihood which can be utilized to ensure peace. We hope and strongly expect that the talks of the leaders of the Soviet Union and the United States will help to open the horizon of peace in the land of Afghans, and restore the optimism of war-weary Afghans in the restoration of peace.

Najibullah Meets With Economic Crime Commission

LD2411120689 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0433 GMT 23 Nov 89

[Text] Kabul, Nov. 22, BAKHTAR—Najibullah, president of the Republic of Afghanistan, RA, received today members of the supreme commission struggles against economic crimes in Gol Khanah Presidential Palace, reported BAKHTAR.

President Najibullah discussed with them matters related to the need to serious struggle against economic crimes which have close link with the daily requirements of people. This commission has been established on Nov. 21, 1989.

He said, it is necessary to pay serious attention to the mechanism on distribution of primary goods for people, ways and means should be sought to attract practical cooperation of people in distribution of these materials to the deserved people.

In my opinion, he added, it is better to take necessary steps—decisive steps visible for people, because people welcome serious measures against criminals and misusing. Thus it is important to strictly determine destructive elements and such elements should be seriously punished, the Afghan leader added.

Anyway it is important that the decisions of the commission should be taken parallel to the current situation and life of the society. Norms for protecting goods should be set up in order to struggle against economic crimes.

President Najibullah stressed that for creation necessary stimulation for attraction people's cooperation. The members of the commission should hear time and again the proposals and views of social figures and elders in various precincts of the Kabul city, they should observe positive proposals in their consequent works.

At the end, Mir Sahib Karwal [name as received], chairman of the commission on behalf of the members of the commission pledged that the commission will do its utmost for intensification of struggle against crimes, sabotage and hoarding of necessary materials.

Hekmatyar Reportedly Closes Peshawar Offices

NC2311232689 Tehran RESALAT in Persian 15 Nov 89 p 12

[Text] Golbuddin Hekmatyar, leader of the Hezb-e Eslami of the seven-party alliance, has closed down his party offices in Peshawar and has moved inside Afghanistan. This was reported to our correspondent by an informed source who said: After the announcement of the Pakistani Government's new policy on helping the Afghan mujahidin only through the interim government and its organs, Hekmatyar closed down all the offices of the Hezb-e Eslami in Peshawar and transferred them to Jaji in Nangarhar Province inside Afghanistan, where he has stationed himself as well. He also has announced that if the interim government does not call for general elections within the next 3 and ½ months, he and his friends within the Afghan Government will attempt a coup in order to gain power. Hekmatyar has not stated who his friends inside the Kabul government are.

It is necessary to point out that Hekmatyar's Hezb-e Eslami closed down its offices in Iran 2 years ago.

Meanwhile, reports received by our correspondent from Peshawar state that Mawlawi Yunis Khalis, leader of the Khalis Islamic Party of the seven-party alliance and the interior minister of the interim government, stated in a news conference 3 days ago that the Afghan Shiites will have no rights in Afghanistan's future government and that they will not be allowed to play a part in the future government. This comes after the recent agreement reached between the mujahidin's interim government in Peshawar and the Shiite alliance groups in Tehran, under which the alliance groups will recognize the Peshawar interim government if they are given a suitable part in the government.

Meanwhile, Khalili, head of Afghanistan's Nasr Organization and spokesman for the eight-party alliance, has refuted rumors that the eight-party alliance has declined talks with the interim mujahidin government based in Peshawar.

Khalili, who arrived in Pakistan last week and is in Islamabad now, described the delay in the arrival in Peshawar of the eight-party alliance's delegation which was due to arrive on Sunday as insignificant and said: As we have previously stated, we are always ready for talks to solve our differences with our brothers in the seven-party alliance.

IRNA reports that following the return of Sebghatollah Mojaddadi from the Tehran seminar last month and the talks that he held here with leaders of the eight-party alliance, the interim government of the mujahidin in Peshawar issued a list 2 weeks ago of not very strong members of a six-man delegation that will hold talks with the eight-party alliance.

Khalili has described this delegation's task as a formality. The delegation, he said, will merely be in charge of preparing for the talks.

Hekmatyar on End to Arms Supply to Mujahidin

BK2911101189 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 19 Nov 89 pp 1, 6

[By Anwar Iqbal]

[Text] Islamabad, Nov. 18—Golbuddin Hekmatyar has said that if the Soviet Union stopped supplying weapons to the Kabul regime, he would make sure that the "other side" supplied no weapons to guerrilla groups in Afghanistan.

The Afghan leader made this extraordinary claim at a press conference here Saturday in which he also said that he had reservations about Pakistan's Afghan policy. He said: "I respect Pakistan as a friend and I respect its right to take its own decisions but we have reservations about its policies." But he declined to elaborate on this.

The leader of the Hezb-e Eslami faction of the Afghan Mujahidin said "total stoppage" of all weapons supplied into Afghanistan would restore peace in that war ravaged country. Asked how would he stop the "other side," he said: "It's the Afghans who decide what they want to do in Afghanistan not the United States. If we say we can stop weapon supplies from this side, we can do it."

Hekmatyar also proposed to set up a fresh Interim Government to hold elections based on proportional representation. Parliament elected through proportional representation should frame a constitution and another election should be held under this constitution to decide who will rule Afghanistan.

Hekmatyar also proposed a revolutionary command council of guerrilla commanders and officers of the Afghan armed forces to take control of Kabul as an Interim Government and hold elections within six months.

But this, he said, was an alternative proposal and was to be implemented only if his first proposal for an election based on proportional representation was not acceptable to other Afghan groups.

He said: "Since we have declared a general amnesty we are encouraging the Afghan army to do so because we want the bloodshed to stop now."

Asked why should the army support him when it did not do so in the past, he said: "There have been developmen's inside Afghanistan that make me believe that they will do it now."

However, he said, he would first go for elections and he believed that conditions were right for holding elections in Afghanistan. He said even an interim government elected by the refugees and Afghans living abroad would be more representative than the Interim Government formed in Rawalpindi.

He said the Pindi [Rawalpindi] Interim Government was set up for holding elections within six months after its formation and it failed to do that. Therefore, he claimed, the government did not exist any more. He said he believed that the Islamic unity of Afghan Mujahidin or the Peshwar-based Seven-Party Alliance had also become redundant.

He said elections based on proportional representation would ensure peace and stability. He said even the parties that get less votes than the winners would get representation in the parliament. These elections, he said, would also avoid corruption that went with electioneering and given representation to all segments of the society.

Hekmatyar said the main task before the Mujahidin was to agree on a formula that brought an end to armed struggle. He said "there will be no coup d'etat, no dynastical rule in Afghanistan. There will be no foreign intervention either. The only solution is through elections."

Hekmatyar said his party would never join a non-elected government and would never recognise one. He claimed that foreign powers were creating ethnic and lingual differences among the Afghans.

He also claimed that "some superpowers were trying to impose people of their choice on the Afghans but the Afghans will never accept them."

Hekmatyar said though the Afghan Interim Government [AIG] stood dissolved for failing to fulfil its commitment, his party would consider re-entering the AIG if it held elections within its current tenure. He did not explain what he meant by the current tenure when he had already said that the AIG stood dissolved.

He refused to comment on remarks that he opposed supply of weapons to other Mujahidin groups because the Americans had stopped supplying weapons to his Hezb-e Eslami party.

Hekmatyar said: "Those who have a desire to fight, they always find weapons and we will continue to fight without American weapons if we so desire."

Asked whether the Chinese and Saudis were still supplying weapons to his group, he said: "There has been no change in their policies and we hope that if there is a change in their policies it would be in our favour."

He told an American reporter that he was "Hekmatyar of Afghanistan and neither Bush of Washington nor Khomeyni of Iran." The reporter wanted to know why people compared him with Imam Khomeyni.

Resistance Leader Mas'ud Calls For Unity

PM2711124489 Paris LE MONDE in French 17 Nov 89 p 8

[Christophe de Ponfilly dispatch: "Meeting With Commander Mas'ud"]

[Text] Taleqan (Takhar Province)—Taleqan, which is 50 km from the Soviet border, is a city of 40,000 inhabitants where everything is peaceful. People bathe in the public baths, the restaurants are full, policemen in white uniforms direct the traffic, and the bazaar is well supplied. Taleqan is administered by three resistance parties: Jamiyat-e Eslami, Harakat, and Khalis' Hezb-e Eslami. The government forces have vanished. Ahmad Shah Mas'ud, the strong man of the northeast, has established one of his headquarters there.

By speeding up their military withdrawal, the Soviets caught the mujahidin unawares. Since February, Mas'ud has constantly worked on the strategy which, according to him, should make it possible to capture Kabul once and for all. "The date does not matter; you must realize that the Kabul regime's days are numbered," he said with conviction.

"When the Soviets left Afghanistan, the mujahidin were forced to move from the defensive to the offensive. We still needed time. Look at the disastrous example of Jalalabad: no preparations, no unity of command, no real leadership. The result was that instead of weakening Kabul's forces, that unfortunate battle made the outside world believe that the resistance was incapable of conquering its country! That was the last straw, in view of the fact that we kicked the Russians out! In guerrilla warfare it is possible to improvise, to wage a conventional war; you have to plan," he explained.

In the northeast preparations are under way for the "big, long offensive" which should lead to final victory. "Above all," Mas'ud explained, "we must promote national unity within the resistance. Men with whom we had difficulty in reaching agreement are now cooperating with us. Our only real problem is Golbuddin Hekmatyar's Hezb-e Eslami which, as always, is constantly harassing us. But this will not prevent us from attacking many government objectives in the coming months."

However, the search for national unity is presenting many problems. In a country like Afghanistan, the concept of nation has never meant much: There are many ethnic groups, and the inhabitants of one valley sometimes know absolutely nothing about the inhabitants of the neighboring valley. However, war encourages contacts. Mas'ud, however, is not liked in the Pashtun areas. They do not like the fact that this Tajik is organizing and telling others what to do. On 9 July, in Takhar Province, 33 of Mas'ud's men were ambushed by Sayyed Jamal, one of the commanders of Golbuddin Hekmatyar's Hezb-e Eslami. Mollah 'Adbul Waudud [name as published], Mas'ud's close companion, and three mujahidin were killed and the others were taken prisoner and executed 3 days later. Mas'ud forbade any punitive action. Initially he waited. "I wanted to know the position adopted by Hezb-e Eslami and that of the resistance's provisional government established in Peshawar." It did not take Mas'ud long to learn that Golbuddin Hekmatyar had announced his support for Jamal (with whom he was in radio contact), going so far as to approve that kind of action. Moreover, the government showed that it was incapable of making any decision quickly.

"Under Commander Pana's [name as published] orders, 2,000 of our fighters surrounded the place where Jamal was and, in less than 36 hours, his 1,200 men were disarmed without any bloodshed. But, in the chaos of the action, Jamal and six of his close aides managed to escape. Their hiding place was discovered by the local population 3 days later. We then arrested them and imprisoned them. It is now up to the courts to do their work." And Mas'ud added: "To guarantee peace, we must respect a state based on law, and overcome our own bitterness. However, I am not prepared to forget what was done to my brothers!" Some of Golbuddin's commanders have defected to Mas'ud. In a few weeks' time a huge series of operations is due to be launched.

This fifth visit to Afghanistan has been the most peaceful. During 6 weeks' walk across the northeastern mountains, we never saw planes flying overhead. Refugees are returning to the Panjsher and starting to rebuild their homes.

Iran-Based Mujahidin Delegation Arrives for Talks

BK2911163289 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] A delegation of the Iran-based eight-party Afghan mujahidin alliance has arrived in Peshawar to hold talks with the leaders of the Afghan interim government. The delegation leader, Mr ('Abdol Karim Khalili) stressed that the Afghan mujahidin must forge complete unity in

their ranks on the political and military fronts. He warned that the Afghan issue might be put on the backburner due to a lack of solidarity and unity.

Answering a question, Mr (Khalili) said that the difference of opinion on the number of seats in the Afghan interim government should not create an impasse in the talks.

Pakistan Charge Summoned to Foreign Ministry

LD2811100989 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0530 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Text] Kabul, Nov. 27, BAKHTAR—Charge d'affaires of the Pakistani Embassy in Kabul was summoned today to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the country and the following was conveyed to him by the caretaker of the First Political Department:

Pakistan and the USA, by pursuing the policy of state terrorism, continue their interventions and interferences in the internal affairs of the Republic of Afghanistan as well as training and arming of the Afghan armed opposition which cause the killing of innocent civilians.

Yesterday, Nov. 26, the armed extremists encourage of [as received] their patrons, fired rockets on crowded and densely populated areas of Kabul city as a result of which 31 persons including women and children were killed and 96 others got injuries.

The Government of the Republic of Afghanistan expresses its strongest protest to the Pakistani authorities upon such anti-humane acts of the so-called human rights supporters and urgently demands the Pakistani Government to put an end to its policy of state terrorism, otherwise its grave consequences will be born by the Pakistani authorities.

Regime Militia Commander Killed in Qandahar

BK3011025689 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] According to reports from Afghanistan, the mujahidin have killed ('AbdurlRashid Jamal), a Kabul regime militia commander, during a clash in Qandahar. The Afghan Interim Government news agency, MIDIA [MEDIA INFORMATION DEPARTMENT OF ISLAMIC AFGHANISTAN], says that the bodyguard of the commander was killed and nine others injured in the incident.

Kabul Battle Report 27 Nov

LD2811115989 Kabul Domestic Service in Pashto 1530 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Armed Forces units based in Nangarhar Province repulsed an attack launched by both Pakistan-backed extremists and Saudi Wahhabis from the direction of Samar Kheyl on 25 November, and forced them back. Enemy supplies were discovered over the past 2 days in the areas of Towr Ghar and Samar Kheyl, but the groups could not mount an active combat operation due to the pressure from forces [as heard]. The enemy fired heavy weapons at the positions of units in Jalalabad and at the trenches of units in Behsud and Kan-o Qatraghay where it caused no loss of life. BAKHTAR INFORMATION AGENCY's military section, quoting an authoritative Armed Forces source, reported that to abort criminal acts by the enemy, artillery and rocket attacks were launched on their positions. As a result, 77 people of the joint forces of the enemy were ousted from the lins of combat, and 5 mortars, 1 Sacker-20 set, 12 BM1 sets, 1 ammunition depot, 5 vehicles loaded with arms and ammunition, 4 recoilless guns and 1 position were destroyed. Units of the Armed Forces in Nangarhar discharged their duties with a high morale.

The source adds that Khowst Major District units are engaged in the supplying and fortifying their previous positions and are in a state of high combat preparation for any possible kind of attack by the enemy. The Pakistani military and Saudi Wahhabis fired at the security posts and the defense lines of the units, as a result of which one unit member was killed and four others were wounded. In response, the artillery and Air Force attacked the resistance lines of the joint enemy force, as a result of which 30 warmongers were ousted from the lines and the enemy's morale is very low.

The report adds that some units carried out mopping up operations in Qandahar and Towr Kotal areas. As a result, 4 warmongers were killed, and 50 mortar shells were seized, 1 BM1, 10 mortars, 5 DShK's, and some fortifications of the Pakistan-backed extremists were destroyed.

Explosives, Grenades Discovered in Kabul Province

LD2811100289 Kabul BAKHTAR in English 0439 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Text] Kabul, Nov. 27, BAKHTAR—The state security forces today discovered 50 kg explosives and 50 hand grenades in Sarubi District, Kabul Province.

The USA-Pak [Pakistan] supported extremists, based on the US-Pak plans of state terrorism intend to transfer the explosives to crowded areas in Kabul for explosion. Besides, the security forces today bought 60 US-made Sacker-30 ground to ground rockets from armed opposition groups in Paghman District, Kabul Province.

India

Gandhi Addresses Nation on New Government

BK2911151489 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1500 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Address by Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi on 29 November; place not given—live or recorded]

[Text] Friends. The people have given their verdict. In all humility, we respect the verdict. A new government will be formed. We extend to them our good wishes and offer them our constructive cooperation. We hope the basic principles of our nationhood—democracy, secularism, socialism, and nonalignment—will be maintained.

As I demit office, I wish to thank the people of India for the affection that they have showered upon me in such abundance. During these last 5 years, I have been amongst our people, from the farthest and the remotest reaches of our land to places of more ready access. Everywhere I have seen a great India being built by a great people. The accomplishments of our nation building are the achievements of our people.

Elections are won and lost, but the work of a nation never ends. We shall not falter in our resolve to do our duty. By India, I and millions of Congress workers rededicate ourselves to the cause of India's greatness.

Mahatma Gandhiji and Indiraji laid down their lives for the unity and integrity of India, for secularism in India. India cannot survive without secularism. We will do everything to uphold secular values. With all my strength, I shall continue to serve the people of India. My best wishes to you all. Jai Hind [Hail India]. Thank you.

Gandhi Unanimously Reelected Party Leader

BK2911142089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1415 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 29 (AFP)—India's Congress (I) Party, which Tuesday conceded defeat in last week's general elections, Wednesday unanimously reelected Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi as its parliamentary leader.

The decision was announced at a meeting in Parliament, hours after the premier had submitted his resignation to President Ramaswamy Venkataraman, following the party's failure to win a working majority in Parliament. It was greeted with cheers and shouts of "Gandhi Zindabad (long live)."

Mr. Gandhi was present at the meeting when Foreign Minister P.V. Narashima Rao proposed his name which was seconded by two other party members. Party sources had said earlier that the 45-year-old premier's reelection as head of the Congress (I) was certain, and that they had no other politician of his political stature.

Witnesses said Mr. Gandhi, wearing a white high-collared Nehru suit, was cheered by suppporters as he arrived at Parliament house for the meeting.

Delhi Notes Reelection

BK2911160689 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1540 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] The Congress-I Parliamentary Party [CPP] has unanimously reelected Mr Rajiv Gandhi as its leader. At its meeting in New Delhi today, Mr P.V. Narasimha Rao proposed the name of Mr Rajiv Gandhi, which was seconded by the parliamentary party secretary, Mr P.N. Shukul, and seven others. They included Mr H.K.L. Bhagat, Mr Shankaranand, and Mr Jaffer Sharif. The CPP meeting which was held in the central hall of Parliament was presided over by Professor N.G. Ranga.

Thanking the parliamentary party for reelecting him as the leader, Mr Gandhi said the recent elections in the country have proved that democracy is deep-rooted in the country. The Congress-I respects the verdict of the people and rededicates itself to work for the uplift of the poor and weaker section of the society.

Congress-I Decides Not To Form Government

BK2911152189 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in Hindi 1515 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] A report just received says the Congress-I has decided not to stake its claim to form a government. The decision was taken at a meeting of the Congress-I Parliamentary Board a short while ago. The meeting was called to assess the election results. The meeting took the decision that although the Congress-I has secured the maximum number of seats, but for the time being it will not stake its claim to form a government.

Opposition Alliance 'Ready To Form Government'

BK2811122089 Hong Kong AFP in English 1210 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 28 (AFP)—India's main opposition alliance declared Tuesday that it was ready to form a government to replace Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi's "corrupt and inefficient" administration.

The five-party front said in a statement released at a crowded news conference here that the mandate in parliamentary elections was "a mandate for a change of government at the centre."

"The people of India want a non-Congress (I) government to replace the corrupt and inefficient Congress (I) government," it said. "It is, therefore, the sacred duty of the National Front to respect this mandate."

The three paragraph statement said the centrist group, which was set up last year, was ready "to form a government at the Centre in tune with the people's wishes and aspirations." The front was the main challenger to the Congress (I) in nationwide elections held last week, which it contested after arriving at a tacit alliance with leftist and right-wing parties.

The formal announcement came hours after the Janata Dal (People's Party), the main constituent of the front, staked its claim for forming a government and the Congress (I) Party accepted electoral defeat.

The front statement, without specifying, appealed to "various non-Congress (I) parties to extend their full

support to the national front in this task of carying out the mandate given by the people."

The front also set up a five-member committee Tuesday to hold discussions with the right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) and India's two main communist parties, which between them have won 126 parliamentary seats so far.

The committee comprises five opposition stalwarts, including Janata Dal President Vishwanath Pratap Singh, 58, who is also widely tipped to become the prime minister if the National Front takes power.

"They (the committee members) are already on their job," Parvathaneni Upendra, a front MP, told reporters, adding that preliminary talks with the BJP and leftist parties had been satisfactory.

The left and right parties have said they would not serve together in a coalition government.

The Janata Dal has won 103 parliament seats out of 450 in which counting has been completed, compared to the Congress (I)'s 176.

Two other constituents of the front have secured three more seats.

BJP To Support National Front

BK2911144489 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1430 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] The Bharatiya Janata Party [BJP] has expressed its readiness to give its general but critical support to a National Front government at the center. In a letter to the chairman and convener of the front, the BJP president, Mr L.K. Advani, said today his party agrees that the people have given a clear verdict against the Congress-I government. Mr Advani's letter was in response to a communication sent to him by the National Front yesterday, seeking the BJP support in the formation of the new government.

Asked by newsmen to clarify what was meant by critical support offered to the National Front in the formation of the government, the BJP spokesman, Mr Murli Manohar Joshi, said in New Delhi this evening that there might be issues where the BJP would like to reserve its right to decide individual issues on merit.

Mr Joshi added that his party will not participate in the government formed by the National Front but is ready to accept any leader elected by the National Front to head the government.

CPI, CPI-M Extend Support

BK2911161489 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1540 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] The left parties have pledged their support to the formation of a National Front government at the Center. The CPI-M [Communist Party of India-Marxist] leader, Mr Harkishan Singh Surjit, told newsmen that there is no possibility of the CPI-M joining the government.

The CPI has also decided to extend its support to a National Front government from outside based on secular and democratic policies. The party's National Council secretary, Mr M. Farooqi, asserted that the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] is a communal party. He said there should be no watering down of the National Front's program in order to secure the BJP support for the formation of a government at the Center. He expressed the hope that the National Front would not be pressurized by the BJP and would strive to implement its manifesto.

National Front Again Postpones Party Meeting

BK2911162689 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1615 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] According to a PTI [PRESS TRUST OF INDIA] received a short while ago, the meeting of the parliamentary party of the National Front has been postponed till Friday [1 December]. The Janata Dal president, Mr V.P. Singh, has said that the leader of the National Front will be elected democratically. Talking to newsmen before the start of the political affairs committee [of the National Front] meeting, Mr Singh said let the MP's [members of parliament] decide who will be their leader.

PTI reports that when asked if the prime minister will be decided tomorrow, he said we can decide only the leader. May be we have to sit in the opposition.

Opposition Prefers V.P. Singh as New Premier

BK3011080089 Hong Kong AFP in English 0740 GMT 30 Nov 89

[By M.R. Narayan Swamy]

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 30 (AFP)—India's centrist opposition which has proclaimed its right to form a government is most likely to unanimously elect shadow prime minister Vishwanath Pratap Singh as its leader despite last-minute hitches. The election will take place at a meeting here of the newly-elected MP's [members of parliament] of the National Front on Friday [1 December], and in the absence of an upset will make Mr. Pratap Singh, 58, the natural choice as the next prime minister of the world's largest democracy.

Opposition sources and newspapers said Thursday that most of the National Front's 143 MP's preferred the former finance minister over a second opposition leader who threw himself into the leadership race Wednesday. "By and large, the consensus revolves around V.P. Singh," said a senior member of the Janata Dal (People's Party), adding discussions went on till late Wednesday among opposition leaders to resolve the tangle.

The National Front, which has the backing of both left-wing and rightist parties to form a government, is

reportedly trying to avoid a contest among its stalwarts to present a picture of unity.

The Janata Dal member, who requested anonymity, said: "Everyone is reconciled to V.P. Singh as the leader and future prime minister. By everyone I mean everyone." The "everyone" was obviously intended to include Chandra Shekhar, a Janata Dal dark horse who is known to despise Mr. Pratap Singh and whose aides let it be known Wednesday that he was a candidate for the post of leader of the new government.

The unexpected development, after months of projecting Mr. Pratap Singh as the future prime minister, forced a cancellation of a scheduled meeting of National Front MP's Wednesday and to its postponement, first to Thursday and later to Friday. Leaders of the National Front, whose main constituent is the Janata Dal, Wednesday called on an ailing Mr. Chandra Shekhar, 62, who in the past has publicly refused to back Mr. Pratap Singh as his leader.

The leadership tussle took a curious turn after the pro-opposition INDIAN EXPRESS newspaper alleged Wednesday that some "powerful persons" opposed to Mr. Pratap Singh were secretly backing Mr. Chandra Shekhar. Mr. Chandra Shekhar denied the report, but the daily Thursday carried photographs of him meeting an agent of a controversial guru, who is reputed to be close to international arms merchants and bankers.

A source close to Mr. Chandra Shekhar told AGENCE FRANCE-PRESSE Wednesday: "Yes, he is very much in the race. He wants an election. What is wrong in it?" However Mr. Chandra Shekhar himself, a veteran Janata politician and socialist who broke away from the ruling Congress (I) in the 1970's, was down with malaria and, could not be reached Thursday. His public statements have left it unclear as to whether he intends to challenge Mr. Pratap Singh.

Janata Dal sources said attempts were still on to dissuade Mr. Chandra Shekhar from contesting the leadership. "But if an election does take place, the winner will undoubtedly be V.P. Singh," one source said.

"To my mind there should be no doubt about Mr. V.P. Singh's election tomorrow," THE TIMES OF INDIA quoted veteran opposition champion M.S. Gurupadaswamy, the front's leader in the old upper house of parliament, as saying. Another unnamed MP reportedly added: "All of us have solicited votes in Mr. V.P. Singh's name and won. So how can there be any other leader?"

Mr. Pratap Singh, popularly known as the "raja" (king), has been the opposition's leading light since he quit Mr. Gandhi's cabinet in 1987 and began crusading against his former boss on corruption charges linked to an arms deal.

Most analysts admit that it was Mr. Pratap Singh's whirlwind campaign tour of northern Uttar Pradesh and Bihar states which have helped the Janata Dal, of which he is the president, to win some 140 parliament seats.

The right-wing Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), which has bagged a record 88 seats, is also known to have reservations about Mr. Pratap Singh and to prefer Mr. Chandra Shekhar or Devi Lal, another Janata Dal leader. The pro-Hindu BJP has in the past accused Mr. Pratap Singh of pampering Moslems, and the Janata Dal chief in turn refused to share platform with BJP candidates during campaigning this month.

Opposition leaders admit that any public squabbling over the leadership issue would give a "negative image" of the party and create factionalism, eventually leading to the government's destablisation. The disastrous experiment of India's only previous opposition government is still fresh in the minds of everyone. A centrist party which formed a government in 1977 after general elections collapsed after two years due to endless infighting and squabbles, enabling the Congress party to storm back to power in January 1980.

Curfew Imposed in Jaipur Following Riots, Arson

BK2811163289 Delhi Doordarshan Television Network in English 1600 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Text] In Rajasthan, the situation in the trouble-torn walled city area of Jaipur is reported to be under control. Violence broke out yesterday afternoon during a victory procession of the BJP [Bharatiya Janata Party] candidate, Mr Girdhari Lal Bhargava.

[Begin correspondent's recording] Indefinite curfew was imposed in parts of Jaipur city following the riots which broke out in the evening yesterday. To ward off further trouble, army was deployed in Ramganj and Manak Chowk. Till late night yesterday, Ghat Gate, Subhash Chowk, and parts of the walled city of Jaipur witnessed massive arson, looting, and sabotage. The riot broke out when the victory procession of the elected candidate of a Jaipur Lok Sabha seat, Mr G.L. Bhargava, was going through the Pink City [Jaipur]. Brickbatting followed and then two groups of people clashed. About 100 people have been wounded, including some policemen. The injured have been admitted to the S.M.S. Hospital, Jaipur. Police teams are still deployed in the areas where curfew was imposed last night. The police are reported to have taken about 70 people in custody. [end recording].

Quoting police sources, our correspondent, Karan Pal Singh, reports that curfew will be relaxed for 2 hours from 0800 tomorrow morning.

Curfew Reimposed After Violence

BK3011092489 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] In Rajasthan, the 4-hour relaxation in the curfew in Jaipur this morning was cut short, following incidents of arson and looting in various parts of the city. A 4-hour relaxation from 0900 [0330 GMT] this morning was

announced yesterday. But the violent incidents during the period forced the administration to withdraw the curfew after 2 hours. Agency reports say that shops were set on fire by the miscreants at about six places during the relaxation period.

Sikhs Kill 6 Troopers; 6 Others Dead in Punjab

BK2211153889 Hong Kong AFP in English 1524 GMT 22 Nov 89

[Text] New Delhi, Nov 22 (AFP)—Sikh militants killed six paramilitary troopers and four civilians in overnight attacks in northern India's Punjab State, the PRESS TRUST OF INDIA (PTI) said Wednesday.

In Gurdaspur District, security forces also shot dead two border-crossers from neighboring Pakistan, PTI said, adding that two others escaped.

A gang of 10 Sikh militants shot dead four troopers in a gunfight in Amritsar District late Tuesday, PTI said. Two other troopers were killed in a second overnight attack in the same district, it said without giving details.

In Majitha District, suspected extremists hanged an unidentified man late Tuesday, the news agency said.

It said three other civilians were killed in attacks by militants in Amritsar, Ferozepur and Batiala Districts.

More than 1,200 people have died so far this year in violence linked to the Sikh separatist campaign for an independent homeland called Khalistan, or land of the pure.

Oil Struck in Andhra Pradesh, Gas in Rajasthan

BK2111051689 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0435 GMT 21 Nov 89

[Text] Oil has been struck in Lingala area in Krishna-Godavari basin in Andhra Pradesh, about 10 km southwest of the Kaikalur town. An ONGC [Oil and Natural Gas Commission] spokesman said in New Delhi yesterday that the daily yield of the well is about 560 barrels of oil and 12,700 cubic meters of gas. The spokesman said full potential of the Lingala area is under study.

In Rajasthan, the Oil India's (Tanok-3) well in Jaisalmer District has started producing gas to the tune of 56,000 standard cubic meters per day. It is estimated that the well has 1 billion cubic meters of gas in store.

More Gas Found in Tripura Area

BK2511105289 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 25 Nov 89

[Text] More gas has been struck at Agartala's (?dome) structure in Tripura basin which is emerging as a major on-shore gas field in the country. According to an Oil and Natural Gas Commission press release, the sixth well in this area at present is flowing gas at a rate of 2.4 lakh cubic meters per day.

Trade Talks With Soviet Union Open in New Delhi

BK2111125889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 1230 GMT 21 Nov 89

[Text] Trade between India and the Soviet Union is poised to exceed the target of 7,000 crore rupees this year. Officials of the two countries began formal talks in New Delhi today to finalize the trade protocol for the next year. The two sides expressed satisfaction over the implementation of the current trade plan. The Indian delegation is led by the commerce secretary, Mr A.N. Verma, and the Soviet side by the deputy minister for foreign economic relations, Mr V.F. Mordvinov.

The 4-day trade talks will prepare a plan for the next year and also exchange views on a 5-year-long trade plan.

Iran

Khamene'i Addresses Qom Students 28 Nov

LD2811220189 Tehran Television Service in Persian 1600 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Excerpts] His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution, met with representatives of Qom religious seminary students and instructors this morning. In that meeting he stressed the need for collation and organization of Islam's value system, clarification of Islamic culture, codification of Islamic rules and laws, and presentation of an Islamic model for life style. He considered all those matters as pivotal duties of the religious seminaries. He further described the magnanimity and importance of the Islamic revolution, while urging the seminaries to pay profound attention to equipping themselves to seriously confront the extensive dimensions of propaganda waged by global arrogance. [passage omitted]

Ayatollah Khamene'i then paid tribute to the efforts of Qom's religious seminary students to improve the seminary's activities. He pointed to various activities which have taken place in the past years for that purpose. He graciously said: The Islamic revolution achieved victory due to the religious seminaries, and today the seminaries are the focal point and the central axis of this system as far as integrity, influence, and far-sightedness are concerned. Therefore, the students, the sources of emulation, the instructors, and the young [religious] scientists, as well as the country's officials, scientists, intellectuals, and university students, and those who believe in religion, must strive to reform and renovate the seminaries according to the requirements of Islam, the revolution, and the times.

In his detailed speech, he described the important role of the high-ranking clergy among the religious instructors and the management council of Qom religious seminary in bringing about the transformation and renovation in the seminary. He then pointed to the crucial role of Islam in the state and the political system, graciously adding: This system has been built upon the foundations of

Islamic thought, and it must be managed on the basis of Islamic views, rules, and tenets. Therefore, the responsibility for collating Islam's system of values, the clarification of Islamic culture, and the codification of Islamic laws and tenets, as well as the presentation of an Islamic model for life—in which the system will change according to such a model—all fall on the shoulders of religious seminaries.

The leader of the Islamic revolution stressed the need to set up many centers for research within religious seminaries. He stated: The seminaries must work in a disciplined and systematic manner, like any other monotheist institution. They must provide answers, based on their Islamic expertise, to questions on various issues, such as judicial and political matters, the duties of the country's officials, international relations, the country's economic and fiscal issues, and hundreds of other issues with which the system is concerned.

His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i considered the seminaries as centers for thought and intellect and as models of Islam. Stressing the need for the seminaries to pay attention to the concept of being a source of emulation [marja'iyat], religious decrees, training instructors, research and writing, training required manpower in Islamic judicial affairs, and to the various and extensive dimensions of global arrogance's propaganda, he graciously stated: The religious seminaries—through order, discipline, programming and elimination of extra work—should carry out their important duties and rise to meet the demands of Islam during the next 30 years.

The leader of the world's Muslims underlined the broad dimensions and practical influences of the Islamic revolution. He then mentioned the efforts and works, which are being carried out by Islamic thinkers to introduce the fundamental tenets of Islam, do not exactly correspond with the greatness and the expansion of the Islamic revolution throughout the world. He graciously said: The basis for that lack of correspondence lies in the fact that on the one hand, we have not presented enough distinguished and comprehensive works; and on the other, the enemies deprived us of a group of main Islamic thinkers at the outset of the revolution. [passage omitted]

The leader of the Islamic revolution then noted the great cultural, social, and political onslaught of Western capitalism against Islam, graciously adding: The confrontation against Islamic dress for women [hejab] which we see in France, denotes a fire which is hidden underneath the ashes. It tells us about a massive task which is being carried out behind closed doors. With the victory of the Islamic revolution the Western world, capitalism, and arrogance—which thoughtfully manage world events—suddenly felt that the Islam which they had always feared had now entered the arena with might and strength; it has thrown the capitalist and Western system of values in question, as well as threatening their future. And so they felt endangered. They joined hands, therefore, to stand against Islam.

The leader of the Islamic revolution then pointed to the dangers arising from a lack of vigilance in the face of the massive cultural ploys of the enemies of Islam, ploys that are accompanied by diplomacy, economics, and money. Continuing his guidance he described the role of the seminaries in the political management of society. He added: The young seminary students are the hope and the practical force of the seminaries and our Islamic society. They must, therefore, play an active role in affairs pertaining to seminaries as well as society's political affairs. They must contribute in this way, while they must guard against being transformed into a political and sectarian entity [majmu'e khatti]. The seminaries need unity, solidarity, and harmony, and they must resolve various internal issues.

In conclusion, His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i pointed to Islam's sovereignty over society, stating: Suspicious trends should not be allowed to grow. Today, society is dominated by Islam and good deeds, and everyone must be confident, and refrain from pessimism which creates divisions which are a great danger to seminaries.

Kharrazi Asks UN To Implement Resolution 598

LD2911184689 Tehran IRNA in English 1441 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] United Nations (New York), Nov. 29, IRNA—Javier Perez de Cuellar's report to the Security Council Tuesday [28 November] implied Iran's cooperation with the secretary general and his special envoy, said the Islamic Republic's permanent ambassador here Tuesday night. However, deplored Dr Kamal Kharrazi, the Iraqi regime continues to raise up issues outside the framework of Resolution 598.

He told IRNA 'the Security Council ought to play a more active role' for implementation of the resolution, and this would come true only through 'explicit and decisive support' for the secretary-general for enforcing the resolution.

A year of negligence by those who passed the resolution is enough, and it is about time for a more practical method by the council to put an end to Iraq's stalling tactics, Kharrazi said.

During U.N. envoy Jan Eliasson's Tehran-Baghdad shuttle earlier this month, Baghdad had called for the setting up of five expert committees to follow up the peace talks, but both the U.N. chief and his envoy rejected the proposal as 'out of the resolution's framework.'

Urges UN To Pressure Iraq

NC3011075489 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] Mr Kamal Kharrazi, the permanent representative to the United Nations, has spoken to our colleague Bonakdar on the latest UN Security Council session held in the presence of the UN secretary general. We draw your attention to the following:

[Begin recording] [Bonakdar] Mr Kharrazi, please give us the highlights of the UN emissary's [Jan Eliasson] report to the UN Security Council which was presented at this session.

[Kharrazi] On the basis of the information we had, during this session the report of the UN secretary general's emissary was read by the UN secretary general himself. The latter presented a report on the Islamic Republic's cooperation in the acceptance of Paragraph 41 of a report he had presented to an earlier session of the Security Council; there was no mention of Iraq.

Naturally, it was clear that the UN secretary general has expressed satisfaction with Iran's cooperation to his special emissary. Iraq has obviously not extended its cooperation. The secretary general stated that the Islamic Republic has announced its willingness to implement a simultaneous withdrawal of forces and exchange of prisoners of war.

In another part of his remarks the secretary general said Iraq has proposed that five committees be set up to implement the resolution. He then said he is obliged to accept the proposals of the two sides only within the framework of the resolution. This would naturally mean that what is beyond the confines of the resolution would not be considered.

At least it has been brought home to the members of the UN Security Council that the Islamic Republic of Iran cooperates with the secretary general and his emissary, when such cooperation was not forthcoming from Iraq.

[Bonakdar] As you are aware, it has been announced that the UN secretary general has invited the foreign ministers of Iran and Iraq to New York for talks. If the date or the format of the meeting has been decided upon, would you please tell us about it?

[Kharrazi] I wish to state that the invitation has been extended. Dr Velayati has agreed that when he visits New York to attend the special session on apartheid, he will participate in these talks with the secretary general. At present, the talks which have been mentioned will be held with the secretary general himself; they will not take the form of a tripartite discussion. [end recording]

* ETTELA'AT Interviews UN Ambassador

90OI0046A Tehran ETTELA'AT in Persian
7 Nov 89 pp 16, 15

[Interview with Kamal Kharrazi, UN ambassador; date, place not given]

[Text] Last week we had the opportunity to interview Dr Kamal Kharrazi, our nation's permanent representative to the United Nations, who was spending a few days in Tehran. The topics discussed included the position of the Islamic Republic of Iran on foreign affairs, the Iran-Iraq peace talks, and the future of our nation's foreign relations. The results are printed below.

[ETTELA'AT] What is the Islamic Republic of Iran's main foreign policy goal in the international organizations, specifically the United Nations?

[Kharrazi] In the name of God, the merciful, the compassionate. The policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran is to maintain an active presence in the international organizations, and one of the international organizations and groups is the United Nations. This is because when we have a serious and active presence and play our part, we will certainly be better able to defend our rights. In other words, we do not believe in isolation; we desire an active presence in the international organizations. We must play an active part in these groups, create movement, and stand before the negative movements and plots of the enemies with a positive front. Experience has shown us that if we do not maintain a presence in these groups and if there is no one there to defend our rights, naturally our opponents will be be able to act there, for there will be no one to answer them, or our allies will not be able to defend us as needed. By maintaining a presence in these organizations, therefore, not only will we be able to defend ourselves, but we can also present innovative plans and initiatives and play a leading role in international politics based on our own positions and values. In recent years, we basically feel that the role of the international organizations in the world's general policymaking is on the increase, particularly because of the changes that have taken place in the Soviet Union and the policies that have been made here by Mr Gorbachev.

In any case, in view of the political and international repercussions, the Soviet Union is giving more attention to the United Nations and America; on the other hand, it is paying less attention to this international organization. As it happens, as Mr Gorbachev has shown greater interest in the United Nations, the Americans have been trying not to fall behind. Because of this, I see a change is underway by which the United Nations and the Third World nations will play a greater role in the future. This increased role will include the codification of international law, the pursuit of international issues, and self-expression on the international scene. Now is the time when we also can increase our role and participate more actively and better in the international arena and play a part in presenting suitable proposals to this group. Therefore, the general policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran is active participation in the United Nations and other international groups to change the image that has been painted of our country. It is essential in this regard to note that our participation in the international organizations and our cooperation with other governments within the framework of international organizations will not do the slightest damage to our values and the aspirations of our revolution; that is, if we are to participate in the international organizations, we must do so while firmly, steadfastly, and powerfully, preserving our aspirations and values. We must be prepared to promote our aspirations and show our resistance and steadfastness in these organizations, and not allow our rights to be

taken away. Achieving this requires a special language, for international work has its own special language. We must naturally be aware of international criteria, principles, and law, and act in accordance with our own values using that language and law. I am optimistic that, God willing, basic and major steps can be taken in this direction and that an active and able image of the Islamic Republic of Iran can be shown in international political work.

[ETTELA'AT] The general policy of the Islamic Republic of Iran is to maintain an active presence in the international organizations. Of course, this policy has been followed since Iran's acceptance of Resolution 598. What has the Islamic Republic of Iran gained so far in these organizations?

[Kharrazi] Clearly, the matter of the war is now being dealt with in the framework of United Nations Resolution 598, and in seeking to achieve our rights we have tried to play a more active role in the United Nations. Of course, the United Nations and its secretary general are now looking at the problem of the Iran-Iraq war as one of their basic issues and are trying to resolve it. The secretary general is trying to implement the framework set forth in Resolution 598 and to follow through on each of its provisions to bring it to a final conclusion. Therefore, the UN's effort and especially the secretary general's is aimed at implementing the resolution by asking how this resolution ought to be implemented. So far the secretary general has put forward proposals to implement Resolution 598. As you know, the first paragraph of the resolution calls for a cease-fire and withdrawal. Likewise, its other paragraphs deal with prisoners, negotiations, and other matters, but the secretary general has always given priority to the first paragraph. In this regard, we are of the same mind as the secretary general and give priority to the first paragraph. There must first be a cease-fire and a withdrawal of forces, and then it will be time to deal with other issues.

In this regard, the secretary general has presented his own four-point proposal. He then presented a proposal for the simultaneous release of prisoners and withdrawal. Unfortunately however, these proposals met with Iraqi opposition, because the Iraqis do not want implementation of the resolution; they want to delay it in order to play with time, and this is why they raise issues outside the framework of Resolution 598. To understand Iraq's insincere intentions, it is enough to ask ourselves if Iraq were really sincere about its insistence on the release of prisoners, it would be enough simply to withdraw, and naturally by now the prisoners would have been released. It has now been slightly more than 1 year since we accepted the resolution. If the Iraqis had accepted the resolution when we did 1 year and 2 or 3 months ago, the prisoners would have been freed 1 year ago. The Iraqis, however, do not have sincere intentions in their propaganda. They do not really wish to solve a human problem. Their aim is to delay implementation of the resolution and minimize the role of the secretary general. They therefore resort to other mechanisms such as the Red Cross and other things that ultimately serve to diminish the role of the secretary general, while the Islamic Republic of Iran has always cooperated with the secretary general. We have accepted the secretary general's executive proposals, and it is the other side who has exacerbated the problem.

[ETTELA'AT] You have discussed some of Iran's activities in the international organizations, particularly the United Nations, with regard to the Iran-Iraq peace talks. What about other activities? Are other things being done as well in the United Nations, for example economic, cultural, and other such activities? If possible, please discuss Iran's other activities in the United Nations.

[Kharrazi] There are six committees in the United Nations. The first is the Disarmament Committee, in which we are active, and last year I was chairman of that committee. This year I am a deputy in one of its subcommittees, in which I participate actively. We deal with the issue of chemical weapons in this very committee. The second committee deals with human rights matters. We must be very active in this committee, for there is much propaganda directed against us in this area, and we must naturally strive to present the true picture of the Islamic Republic of Iran in the area of human rights for the people of the world.

The third committee also deals with such matters as apartheid, racism, women, refugees, narcotics, human rights, and the like. We must be active in that committee concerning narcotics, because we play an extensive role in combatting narcotics.

Moreover, concerning women we must present the role that the Islamic Republic of Iran espouses for women.

The fourth committee discusses countries lacking self-determination, such as Namibia, where there are plans to send a UN observer team from various nations to take part in the elections there.

The fifth committee discusses the financial and budget affairs of the United Nations itself. The fifth committee discusses the payment shares of countries, personnel, and also the United Nations internal budget. This committee also discusses laws on international trade and seeks to resolve international differences over legal concepts in the international economic system, as well as crimes against the peace and security of mankind.

This committee produces the International Law Commission's Labor Report; the special anti-mercenary committee and matters of this kind are discussed in this committee, of course mainly dealing with legal aspects.

In addition to these five committees, there is also a special political committee. This committee discusses intelligence and the exchange of intelligence in the world, the deficiencies that have resulted from the transfer of intelligence from the poor and developing nations to the developed nations, international cooperation in the

peaceful use of space exploration, human rights violations in occupied lands, and other matters such as maintaining security in small nations, peacekeeping operations, and the effects of nuclear energy. Of course, we are naturally not active in all of these matters, but we do plan, God willing, to make use of our own experts in the various committees, and to pursue issues and make preparations so that in the future we will be able to be more active in each of these committees, to have membership in the sub-committees, to play a part in the submission of resolutions, and thus to play an effective role in international relations.

[ETTELA'AT] In your view, why doesn't the Security Council, which passed the resolution itself, pressure Iraq to implement it?

[Kharrazi] Implementation of Security Council resolutions depends on many factors, one of which is the political factor, meaning the question of which countries support each of the two antagonists. This important matter naturally depends on the level of activity in political relations among nations, how much this accounts for others, and to what extent they can attract support from others, in order to develop a consensus that will be effective in implementing the resolution. Therefore, one part of the matter for us is now our bilateral relations and the political relations that exist between Iran and other nations.

The second issue is the negotiations themselves, how much they are pursued, and how much they are accompanied by innovative proposals from the two sides that could in any case be useful in opening the way. Other issues include propaganda, military matters, the balance of forces, and the like, which may be discussed each in its turn. However, on the question of why the Security Council does not take decisive steps concerning implementation of Resolution 598, one may say that often the interests of the large nations require that these conditions of neither war nor peace not end so quickly.

Well, we see that in the Security Council Britain, America, and some of the other five permanent members, as well as some of the council's rotating members, are our enemies and naturally they will not do anything that would be to our benefit or in our interest, for it is also in Iraq's own interest to delay implementation of the resolution. They support Iraq's position, and they are influential in the Security Council. When we accepted the resolution, the Security Council applied regular pressure and insisted on acceptance and implementation of the resolution as quickly as possible. It even wanted to employ executive implements in order to physically stop the war. We now see that there is no inclination or insistence to this effect, because it was in their interest to implement the resolution at that time, but its implementation is now to their detriment, and the longer it takes the better for them. Of course, we must clarify this and it is in this way that we will specify this country's role, seek to gain the support of other countries, and also to mount more extensive propaganda to illuminate public and human opinion.

We must continue to cooperate with the secretary general, and help him implement proposals to implement the resolution. In addition, in negotiations we must try to put forward positive and practical proposals for the more rapid implementation of the resolution.

[ETTELA'AT] It has been more than 1 year since a practical step was taken on the resolution. Isn't it naive of us to place our hopes in the international organizations? Do you believe this course should be pursued until it achieves results?

[Kharrazi] In any case, we must be active in the international framework. We must not place all our hopes in negotiations as a way to achieve our rights.

As I said, there are many factors that will lead to movement in the negotiations and ultimately the procurement of our rights. We must bring about all of these factors, and apart from the factors that have political aspects and have to do with international cooperation, we must also give attention to propaganda work.

The most important thing of all is really our domestic situation. We must show our domestic stability and unity to the world as soon as possible. We must show that we are together especially with regard to the war, our resistance, and sacrifice, and that we are serious about achieving our rights in this area. If we show well our resistance, steadfastness, and solidarity to the world, that in itself will be much more effective. For example, if we can solve our economic and political problems, as we have succeeded in doing so far, and show the world our political and economic stability, we will make great progress in achieving our goals.

[ETTELA'AT] What kind of political effects will come from the change in Iraq's United Nations ambassador?

[Kharrazi] Representation in the United Nations is usually cyclical. After a period of time the representatives of nations usually become members. Iraq's former representative (Kittani) has completed his term and retired, but has not yet returned to Iraq. He works in the United Nations itself. A new person named Al-Anbari has been presented by Iraq to the United Nations as its new ambassador.

[ETTELA'AT] Iran has been selected as an observer to the Namibia elections. Did this happen by chance, or did it take place in accordance with a previous plan?

[Kharrazi] No, it did not happen by chance. It was done in view of the proportional representation allowed for Asia, Africa, Europe, and America.

As we had very good relations with Sam Najuma and helped with the Namibia independence movement, of course it was important to us to be represented on the

United Nations observer team. Praise God, we succeeded and were selected as a member of this team.

[ETTELA'AT] What is your view of our presence in the Gulf Cooperation Council? Have steps been taken in this direction yet? And if so, what are the possible obstacles?

[Kharrazi] It is not a question of our presence in the Gulf Cooperation Council, but the question has to do with our cooperation with the nations in the Persian Gulf region. The Gulf Cooperation Council is a framework established among the nations to the south of the Persian Gulf. If the Islamic Republic of Iran, which is a large country in the area with a 1500-kilometer coast line on the north side of the gulf, is going to cooperate with the other nations of the Persian Gulf, this cooperation cannot of necessity occur within the framework of the Gulf Cooperation Council, because this council came into being with its own special aims and organization.

In any case, cooperation with the nations of the Persian Gulf is an important goal that can be pursued in the context of regional security. Regional security is what is important to us under present and future circumstances, and this can take place with various mechanisms and methods.

The nations of the region must take a comprehensive look at the future of regional security, and they must prevent problems arising that threaten regional security and pave the way for future insecurity (from whatever country). Within such a framework, the Islamic Republic of Iran is definitely prepared to cooperate with the nations of the Persian Gulf, and we hope to reach agreement with all the nations of the Persian Gulf in the areas under consideration.

[ETTELA'AT] What proposals do we have in mind for future relations with the West? Specifically, what will our ultimate position be with regard to America? If America releases our impounded assets, will we establish relations with this government?

[Kharrazi] Relations with the West are based on the positions that exist between us and the West, the positions they have regarding us, and naturally the positions we have regarding others based on our own ideology. If therefore, countries are going to interfere in one another's affairs, seek to establish dominion, utilize political and economic devices against one another, and in short, keep the ideas of the past in their minds and continue with the plots they have sometimes directed against other nations, naturally relations cannot be established. This relationship is that of the wolf and the sheep. If the countries with whom we now have no relations were to change their strategies, however, that is, to no longer have a strategy of enmity, and naturally this concept extends to political, economic, military, and other domains, then in that case there is no problem establishing relations. You see that we did not have extensive relations with the Soviet Union, but when the Soviet Union reformed its positions (both in domestic and ideological matters), then the way was open for establishing these relations and there has truly been a strategic change.

The Soviet Union of today is not the Soviet Union of a few years ago. It is fully evident that a strategic change has taken place in the Soviet Union, and of course we have established relations with them, and they are expanding. It is just this way with the nations of the West. So long as the existing relationship of enmity continues, naturally relations cannot be established. If however, there is a strategic change here and positions are completely changed so that enmity is no longer evident and and a strategic change is made, then naturally relations can be established, just as we have relations with the other Western nations. The question, however, is whether or not a gesture of goodwill or a maneuver can constitute a strategic change. Here is where we must be careful that our aspirations are not undermined. In answer to your question of whether we would establish relations if America came forward and made some gesture of goodwill to release our assets, this would be taken at the level of a gesture of goodwill, and we must seek indications of this continued goodwill from this country in particular or other similar countries, that are truly fundamental and basic changes in their positions. Of course, this gesture of goodwill can be evaluated, and it will take time to determine if changes have actually taken place, deep changes, or if this is to be seen only as a maneuver, and whether or not it is a strategic change. Therefore, the establishment of relations with such nations at first cannot be so easily contemplated, because it is not reasonable to think governments that have plotted against us for many years in succession, had a destructive role in the war against us, and took part in various political, economic, and international plots and tricks supporting Iraq against us, will make a strategic change of position overnight with a gesture of goodwill and a maneuver. We must stand firmly on our positions and have indications and signs that really indicate such strategic changes in the positions of countries with whom we have severed relations, because there is no doubt that we will not abandon our aspirations, and our people are on the scene, standing firm, watching behavior. They do not want to see people who have plotted and engaged in hostilities against us easily permitted to establish friendly relations without making such strategic changes in their positions. If that happens, then things will be different, totally different from the conditions of the past, and the relationship of wolf to sheep will no longer be true.

FRG Firm Denies Supplying CW Equipment

LD2811215889 Tehran IRNA in English 1733 GMT 27 Nov 89

[Text] Bonn, Nov. 27, IRNA—The West German chemical manufacturer Bayer Ltd Leverkusen today flatly rejected charges that it had supplied the Islamic Republic of Iran with equipment which could also be used to produce chemical weapons.

According to documents confiscated by members of the customs investigation department in Bayer's offices at Leverkusen and two other towns the chemical manufacturer had delivered a plant to Iran between November 1987 and January 1988 which was intended for the production of pesticides.

Experts, however, found out that this plant in the industrial area of the city of Qazvin "is also suitable for the processing of phospho-organic combinations"—substances used in pesticides as well as in chemical weapons, reports here said.

Even in August Cologne finance officials had informed their superiors in the Ministry of Finance in Bonn of a first suspicion. In the meantime Cologne Finance Office has taken preliminary legal action against those responsible at Bayer Ltd. The plant, they argue, had been delivered without the necessary export licence.

In contrast Bayer's chief legal advisor, Schwericke, claims that for this kind plant an export licence from the economics ministry had not been necessary.

Bayer Ltd had therefore been rather surprised that the contract was now being investigated by finance officials, "contrary to previous practice," the chairman of the board of management, Strenger, said today.

PRC Trade Minister Signs Memorandum, Departs

NC2911102389 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] Mr Tuobin Zheng, PRC foreign economic relations and trade minister who visited our country at the head of an economic delegation, left Tehran this morning. Economic and Financial Minister Mohsen Nurbakhsh and Tuobin Zheng, the Iranian and Chinese heads of the two countries' joint cooperation committee, signed a memorandum of understanding at the end of their talks. Our correspondent Khameneh has prepared the following report:

[Begin recording] [Khameneh] The fifth session of the joint committee for Iranian-Chinese economic relations ended with the signing of a memorandum of understanding by the two countries. In the memorandum, which forms the framework for the two countries' future relations and cooperation in the economic, commercial, technical, industrial, and scientific fields, the two parties point to the full implementation of past agreements and welcome the new conditions in bilateral relations.

After signing this memorandum of understanding, the PRC minister for foreign economic relations and trade gave an interview. Stating that the two countries' joint fifth session had been very successful in consolidating and expanding cooperation, he said that various topics were discussed by the committee and that the understanding reached by the two countries led to general agreements. He then described his talks with our country's high-ranking officials as useful and called for the expansion of bilateral relations on the basis of the two countries' interests.

Mr Nurbakhsh also spoke about the volume of trade between the two countries in the coming year and about the agreements reached on Iranian-Chinese economic, scientific, and industrial cooperation. He said:

[Nurbakhsh] In the name of God, the almighty, the merciful. The volume of mutual trade envisaged in this memorandum of understanding which will be signed is $600 million. This year we reassessed our trade with China and altered the mode of payment to free trade with convertible foreign exchange, and the export of our nonoil products to that country is to match our purchases. Thus, the first delegation to hold talks that will lead to the signing of an agreement and to purchases is to come to Iran from China within 2 months of the signing of the memorandum of understanding. Talks are to be held with the manufacturers of various products. Also we are to cooperate in several projects relating to ferrous and nonferrous metals, power plants, the production of paper from cotton stems, and other projects concerning various industries and heavy industries. We hope that the drafting of this memorandum of understanding will enable us to reach the envisaged volume of trade and also encourage our nonoil exports. [end recording]

Commentary on Religious Strife in Afghanistan

NC2911111989 Tehran International Service in Arabic 2005 GMT 28 Nov 89

["International Affairs" program]

[Text] Brothers and sisters, may God's peace and blessings be upon you. The Kabul regime is currently circulating stories about differences between the Sunnis and Shiites and about granting autonomy to the Hazarajat region. This is a new plot in Afghanistan. Since the Afghan people have succeeded by their unity and coordination in ousting foreign aggressors and forces from Afghan territory and ending their role in Afghanistan, the arrogant forces are now trying to enter through several loopholes in order to disrupt the people's unity and frustrate their efforts to play a leading role in combating international atheism. The arrogant forces know well the Afghan people who struggled for 11 years and succeeded in confronting and repulsing an arrogant superpower and achieving a social and political transformation. Proceeding from this premise, both sides of arrogance, East and West, are focusing their media campaigns on creating a breach in the unity of the Afghan ranks.

Therefore, both camps are seeking to emphasize that the Shiites will not participate in the forthcoming Afghan government. As a matter of fact, British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher has advocated and insisted on this goal for a long time. Soviet agents in Afghanistan are promoting and spreading this idea, but more subtly.

They declare they recognize the Ja'farite creed as an official one in Afghanistan, promise to grant autonomy to the area where the Ja'farites live, and invite them to participate in the central government. Thus, they are trying to create a crack in the Afghan people's unity and to disperse the people geographically to make it easier to control them.

It is worth noting that there are no problems between the Sunnis and Shiites, judicial issues, matters affecting freedom of religion, or instances of racial discrimination in Afghanistan. The 7 million Shiites will not accept what the Kremlin decides for them. The Shiites have no such problem, nor do they think of this matter at all. They realize very well that the granting of autonomy to the Hazarajat region, where the majority of Shiites live, is a plot being concocted by the enemies of Islam. The meaning of granting autonomy to the Hazarajat region is to separate the heart from the body. Enemies who express the desire to grant autonomy to the Hazarajat region should also call for autonomy to be granted to the other deprived areas such as Hazara, Uzbek, Turkmen, Tajik, (Plotch), and other Afghan regions. The Muslim people realize that these are false claims and that the plot aims at frustrating the Afghan people's resolve and determination. The Shiites and Sunnis are united by the Islamic religion.

The current reality in Afghanistan is that the people reject foreigners who plunder the country's wealth. It is not a question of Sunnis and Shiites competing for power. The Shiites and Sunnis are standing in the same trench to fight the colonialists. The current situation in Afghanistan has nothing to do with the reports disseminated by the BBC. This radio station has a background in this field, because sowing sedition began in Britain, where an overall plan against the Afghan people was prepared. Certain amendments were made to this plan and it was adopted by the Soviets, who sought to implement it with certain alterations. Now the BBC is trying to circulate rumors and false reports in order to weaken the Afghan people so that they will have no role in relation to what is taking place in the Eastern camp, which is collapsing and searching for an alternative to dead communism.

Head of Forces' Ideological Department Named

LD2911184789 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] His Eminence Ayatollah Khamene'i, leader of the Islamic revolution and commander-in-chief of the Armed Forces of the Islamic Republic of Iran, issued an edict today appointing Hojjat ol-Eslam Haj Sheykh Mohammad Mehdi Movaheddi-Kermani as head of the Ideological-Political Department of the Armed Forces General Staff Command Headquarters [setad-e farmandehi-ye koll-e nirūha-ye mosallah]. The text of the edict is as follows:

In the name of God, the compassionate, the merciful. His Excellency Mr Haj Sheykh Mohammad Mehdi Movaheddi-Kermani, may your blessings continue. Taking note of your excellency's qualifications and commitment and prolonged experience in the ideological-political affairs of the Armed Forces, I appoint you as head of the Ideological-Political Department of the Armed Forces General Staff Command Headquarters. The chief responsibility of the department is to establish coordination between the ideological-political organizations in all Armed Forces, establishing unity and attending to the ideological-political departments. I beg God Almighty to grant you and the rest of the respected gentlemen success.

[Signed] Seyyed 'Ali Khamene'i
[Dated] 29 Nov 1989

Officials Comment on Copper Resources, Output

NC2811160089 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Text] The managing director of the National Iranian Copper Industries said in an interview with our correspondent that 330 new copper mines have been found in various parts of Iran. He also spoke about the level of copper production and explorations at the new copper mines.

Pointing out that the Sarcheshmeh copper complex is the world's second largest mine in terms of its resources, he said that the capacity of this mine is 1.2 billion tonnes of an average of .7 percent carats.

Discussing the process of production in this complex, the managing director of the National Sarcheshmeh Copper Industries Company said: The nominal volume of the plant is 144,000 tonnes of anode copper, but its refining capacity is very high and it can produce 170,000 tonnes under normal conditions. With the implementation of a new advanced system, this can be increased to 240,000 tonnes of cathode production.

He added that 400 kg of gold and 12 tonnes of silver are extracted annually through copper refining and that during the first 8 months of the current year [Iranian year 21 March to 21 November], output was more than 48,000 tonnes, 22,000 tonnes of which was delivered to copper-affiliated industries. He also said that plans for next year envisage the production of 90,000 tonnes of cathode copper.

Tehran Stock Market's Efforts To Expand Role

NC2811111489 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Correspondent Hafezi's report]

[Text] Following several years of stagnation, the Tehran Stock Organization has started new efforts to expand its role in directing small investments toward production units and in increasing people's ownership in such units. The organization has announced that during the 8 months between Farvardin and the end of Aban 1368

[21 March-21 November 1989] transactions in company shares and other negotiable bonds reached 3.8 billion rials in the Tehran stock exchange. This is 60 percent more than for the corresponding period last year.

The Tehran Stock Organization, which started its operations in 1967 in the wake of a decision adopted in 1966, is an official market where transactions in negotiable bonds take place in accordance with certain regulations.

People with deposits can turn their capital into shares in productive companies, and the shareholders of the companies recognized by the stock exchange can sell their shares in the Tehran stock exchange when they are in need of cash. This will enable those establishing production companies to offer shares in their companies, if these companies meet the necessary conditions, and thus to attract the money of small investors and create the necessary production units or expand such units.

It should be recalled that between the establishment of the Tehran Stock Organization and 1978, a total of 105 companies and banks and 4 types of negotiable bonds were accepted by the stock exchange. The highest amount of transactions in the Tehran stock exchange in any one year was recorded in 1977, when transactions totaled 44 billion rials. After the Islamic revolution, there were several years of stagnation in share transactions, and transactions in interest-bearing bonds on the Tehran stock exchange were halted. Market transactions started to increase beginning in 984, and in 1988 share transactions worth 10 billion rials took place on the Tehran stock exchange.

Officials of the Tehran stock exchange expect the new policies of the government and greater encouragement of the people to invest in an official and supervised market to lead to an increase in the activities of the Tehran stock exchange.

Jobs Created for Disabled, Combatants, Others

NC2911102989 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] On the basis of the law approved by the Majles on the need to hire disabled people, fighters, and revered members of the families of martyrs, prisoners of war, and those missing in action, the names of 24,000 people falling into this category were submitted to state organs, and all of them have been hired.

This was stated by an official of the Civil Service Organization who added that on the basis of the same law, by the end of the current year [20 March 1990], 5,891 people in this category will be hired by education organs in various parts of the country. He went on to say that for the correct implementation of this law, the Civil Service Organization has recorded the details of these persons in an information center which has been set up for this purpose and will submit their names for employment in accordance with the needs of government organizations.

Majles Deputies Sign Letter Praising Basij

LD2811154389 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 1030 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Text] Over 160 Majles deputies have signed a letter on the occasion of Basij Week, praising the self-sacrifices and devotion of these earnest and faithful forces. In this letter the Majles deputies, pointing to the historic edict of His Eminence,Imam Khomeyni—may his soul be sanctified—concerning the formation of the Mobilization of the Oppressed, said the presence of the people's force in the arenas of the Islamic revolution caused the helplessness of the world's powerful. He referred to the conspiracies of global arrogance and its allies against Islam and the system of the Islamic Republic, saying that they have highlighted the struggles of the Muslims all over the world—notably in Palestine, Lebanon and Afghanistan—in their confrontation with these conspiracies.

This letter also states: You basijis are the sentinels of Iran and Islam, and if it were not for your martyrs, your courage, and your manly defenses which you undertook with God's help and at the instruction of the imam, neither would we be here, nor Islamic Iran. And it is this formidable human wave of yours which crushed the enemy and made it despondent in the face of achieving its despicable objectives. Now also, you defenders of justice, enthusiastic and faithful youth, and enlightened followers and women heroines, all of you—the 20-million strong army alongside the Islamic Revolution Guards Corps and the Armed Forces—have become a dam facing the aggressors. Now also, the leader of the Islamic revolution, who spent a long time among the ranks and who wore your uniform and is still with you, praises your heroism, and considers it necessary to appreciate and strengthen you.

In this letter also, the Majles deputies, noting the emphasis that his eminence the imam and respected leader placed on attending to, and paying attention to, Basij forces, called on the officials of the country to follow the leader [velayat] and the committed and responsible clergymen, and carry out this matter so that the Basij could be more cohesive, hopeful, and stronger than ever before.

KEYHAN Reports on 8 Nov Majles Session

PM2711104489 Tehran KEYHAN in Persian 8 Nov 89 pp 2, 18

[Excerpts] An open session of the Majles was held this morning, chaired by Hojjat ol-Eslam Mehdi Karrubi. [passage omitted]

Seyyed Qazi-Zadeh Hashemi, deputy for Fariman, Sarakhs, and Ahmadabad, was the first speaker at today's session. He began his speech by conveying his greetings on the birthday of Imam Hasan 'Asgari—peace be to him and his family—and on the beginning of the week for the mobilization of the oppressed, which also coincides with the anniversary of the formation of the army of 20 million. He then made the following points:

1. Why do the United Nations and the Security Council not name the party causing obstructions in the implementation of Resolution 598? Why is the real cause of the deadlock not identified? Mr Secretary General, why do you not use the propaganda and psychological means at your disposal to implement Resolution 598? The fact that the Security Council cannot solve the problems of the occupied lands of the Palestinian brothers means that the council is also unable to implement Resolution 598. The council is now playing for time to score points over both Iran and Iraq at the appropriate moment.

I wish to remind everyone that the president should take the implementation of the resolution out of the hands of the international body and choose some other means. As the imam said, the Algiers accord of 1975 must be implemented—not a word more, not a word less. The prisoners of war will also not be released before the forces' withdrawal to international borders.

2. The issue of Lebanon has reached a new and complicated stage. It has become so bad that predetermined American plans are now being carried out in line with Fahd. In Lebanon the formation of the parliament is so arranged that unless an effort is made now, the system of ethnic separation and factionalism will take hold and Christian deputies will have the majority of seats.

Our minister of foreign affairs should be able to guide the Hizballah and the Lebanese masses toward their goals—to the extent that they expect from the Islamic Republic—so that Muslims such as 'Arafat do not come to power in Lebanon.

3. I advise the government that the amount of hard currency given to officials in delegations going abroad must be carefully calculated. I also advise the Foreign Ministry to monitor this matter through the Islamic Republic of Iran's embassies and consulates abroad. Officials going abroad for a short time should exchange their currency at proper government centers, and in countries where there are two currencies their actions must be in accordance with the laws of those countries.

4. A big problem is the bureaucracy that exists in the executive power, which has not changed at all. There has been no positive action in this regard as a result of the revolution. Why does the government oppose the various Majles' plans to merge some of the ministries? Does it always have to be the government which brings proposals to the Majles?

5. For the second time the government has raised the bonuses given to managers. I say that this bonus should be given on an equal basis to everyone. [passage omitted]

The deputy for Fariman said the nation should have satisfactory labor law for the country's workers—one that will resolve their problems. He asked the minister of labor to strive to ensure the bill's approval so that it can be implemented. He added: I remind all of you that the imam's reply to Mr Sarhadi-Zadeh in this regard was that the labor law must be implemented as soon as possible. Unfortunately, 2 years have passed since the imam uttered those words and the workers are still waiting for a labor law to be passed.

The Council of Guardians found 33 problems with the recent labor law passed by the Majles, 26 of them dealing with financial matters. It is now necessary to hand the financial problems of the issue to the Expediency Council to be approved as soon as possible.

The Council of Guardians also found 32 religious problems in the law. These should also be resolved in a way that will guarantee our workers a fair labor law that will resolve their problems.

The deputy for Fariman then commented on the country's economic problems and said: Today the regime must deal resolutely with the financial disorganization in the private sector. The time has come to find a solution to the situation whereby the majority of the country's wealth is in the hands of only a few people. We must also eliminate the huge differences in income, which are a major stumbling block in our Islamic society. [passage omitted]

The second pre-agenda speaker at today's Majles session was Mrs Marziyeh Hadidchi Dabbagh. [passage omitted]

She addressed the minister of education and said: You will not get anywhere with your actions. The schools in the Islamic Republic are not the same as those of Los Angeles and they are not the same as they were under the previous regime. They are places of learning. The only people entitled to be ministers and teachers in these places of learning are those not engaged in political games, who are not trying to seek revenge for something that has occured in the past, and those who display Islamic behavior.

Dabbagh, the deputy for Tehran, then addressed Foreign Minister Mr Velayati and said: Please tell your men at the ministry to study the words of the imam a little, so that when they give interviews in France they do not say that Islamic dress is a religious and internal matter. They should know that religion and politics are one and the same and that Islam knows no geographical boundaries. [passage omitted]

The third and last pre-agenda speaker at today's Majles session was 'Ali Reza Farzad, deputy for Taft. He said: A few days ago an unfortunate incident occured at Amir Kabir University. A group of students needed a place to stay and they had been confused and homeless for some time. At one time there were more that 70 students housed in the basement of a building. This prompted them to illegally take over a building used by the Mobilization of the Oppressed Organization as a center for the collection of material donated by the public. This resulted in the center's closing, and in fact, the students themselves said that they did not want it to happen and that it was a mistake.

There is one question that remains unanswered here: Why is it that when there is not even a single 12-square-meter room to share between four to seven students, there are many apartments belonging to treacherous landlords and capitalists and organizations and offices in the city who do not make the best use of them? Under these conditions, when we do not have enough sleeping quarters for our students, implementing even part of Article 49 of the Constitution could have solved the problem.

It must be said that becoming squatters does not make sense. It is up to the officials of the revolution and the regime and the gentlemen of the Judiciary to eliminate all shortcomings and all injustices so that the people, who themselves staged the revolution and are the owners and the guardians of the revolution, do not engage in improper actions.

Unfortunately, some time ago we saw some schools and high schools evacuated because they occupied rented buildings. We saw buildings and apartment blocks returned to their capitalist owners, who during the first years of the revolution would not dare to even open their mouths. Revolutionary patience also has a limit. We must pay proper attention to the basic needs of our people, including students, particularly when it comes to providing sleeping quarters.

After the occupation of the aforementioned building, the security forces acted in a manner unworthy of this regime and this revolution, and evacuated the students. Of course, the people's deputies are aware of the beatings that the students received. We are against this sort of behavior because we consider it below the dignity of this regime, this revolution, and this Majles.

He concluded by saying: We are in the years of reconstruction. Students and young people will play a major role in the reconstruction of the country and it is up to officials to coordinate their actions with those responsible for students' affairs.

Following these pre-agenda speeches, Speaker of the Majles Hojjat ol-Eslam Karrubi made a few remarks about the takeover of the mobilization building by the students. He said: First, I just want to say that, as Mr Farzad said, the issue has two sides. Students, the mobilization of the oppressed, revolution committees, and clerics have their own place and all are friends of the revolution. Any wrongdoers will be dealt with and everyone must obey the law. No one approves of the way the incident was handled, but it is also wrong for students to occupy a building where there are sisters at work.

Another point is that such issues should not be discussed over the Majles microphones. You must not encourage one side without due reason because then they will go and do something else, and that too would be wrong as well. If you want to mention such things, then talk about both sides of the story and be fair. I announce clearly that I am against both what Mr Ranjbar said and also what Mr Farzad said. [passage omitted]

Geophysics Department Refutes Earthquake Rumors

NC2811080589 Tehran Domestic Service in Persian 0430 GMT 28 Nov 89

[Text] The Tehran University Geophysics Department has issued a statement refuting rumors that an earthquake is to take place at a specific time and on a specific date in Tehran. The statement says: The process of predicting the time and place of an earthquake today is in its most elementary stages; the most developed countries do not have such information either. The statement says: Almost all the earthquake zones in the world have been identified. In Iran the areas around the Alborz and Zagros ranges and some other areas, namely, south of Khorasan and Kerman, are among the important zones where destructive earthquakes sometimes occur. The rumors that an earthquake is to take place at a specific time and in a specific place are not confirmed by this department.

Correction to Hashemi-Rafsanjani 17 Nov Sermon

NC2911082189

The following correction pertains to the item headlined "President Delivers 17 Nov Friday Prayers Sermon," published in the 27 November Near East & South Asia DAILY REPORT, pages 58-61:

Page 60, column two, from the end of paragraph four to paragraph five, make read: ...to this point.

At present exports and imports are not less complex that agriculture and production, but even more so. But it is that prevailing culture which drags them to this state. They [those who do not want to engage in productive work] resort to this excuse: If we were to start these jobs, the government would create obstacles for us. No, that is not always the case. This is an excuse to justify the mentality of making money by whatever means, including fraud, profiteering, hoarding, and other dirty works. Pursuing this option is much easier. You can steal more, whereas in productive work you cannnot do that. In the latter field, you have to deal with true figures. We will have no revenues without production, whereas in the former case, you can have a huge income by creating a black market.

You have heard the famous saying attributed to Imam Sadeq [the sixth Shiite imam]. I am sure you have heard it many times but it is appropriate to mention it again in this discussion. Imam Sadeq once felt that he was facing difficulties in managing his life. He asked a favor from a friend saying: I have to look after a big family. Could you please start a business on my behalf? A convoy of merchants was travelling from al-Madinah to Egypt. His holiness the imam gave 1,000 dinars to this person, his agent, and asked him to go on this business journey. He bought some merchandise and left for Egypt.

After arriving in Egypt, at the border, they saw another convoy which was returning from Egypt. The two convoys exchanged information. The one heading for Egypt said: We are taking this merchandise to Egypt. The departing convoy said: What a good time you have chosen; there is a shortage in Egypt of the merchandise you are carrying and your commodity will sell in no time. All the people are waiting in the bazaar for your commodity.

This was good news for the convoy. They became very happy and held a private meeting promising one another not to sell the merchandise unless they could secure a return of 100 percent at least. They took an oath to remain committed to this promise. After arriving in Egypt, they sold the merchandise at a high price in a short time because it was an essential commodity and there was none in the market. The people bought because they had to. The convoy was supposed to stay in Egypt for about a month to sell all the merchandise, but they sold the whole thing in 2 days and left for home.

The man brought two bags full of coins. He was supposed to bring only one bag. His holiness the imam said: What a huge profit you have made in one trip. The man told him the story. His holiness became very angry. He held his head in his hands and said angrily: I do not want your money. One bag is enough for me. My family and I would rather live in poverty. This is not good money. It is easy to make money like that. What an unfortunate group you are to take an oath to make money by overcharging the public for essential commodities, something that they need. Is this the way to treat a Muslim? No, I do not want that kind of money. Making money in this way discourages people from going into productive businesses.

In our sick... (supplying omitted passage, deleting editorial notation)

Page 61, column one, from the end of paragraph three to paragrph four: ...a human being.

When we refer to the Islamic phrase "the best work for a human being," some clergymen say that the meaning of this phrase is that you should wash yourself with cold water instead of warm water in the winter. They say ablution is better with cold water even in the winter. Yes, this is the case, but this is not the only good thing we can do. The idea is that we should shoulder the heavy burden, drudgery, and hard work of society. Man is the one who goes and undertakes such heavy tasks which are difficult to perform. We may think that the best work for a human being is performing ablutions, praying, and going on the pilgrimage on foot; all these things do exist. But working in a factory so that people's lives may be improved, tolerating hardships in mines for the sake of the welfare of society, taking a shovel in one's hand to ensure the well-being of the people, and carrying out difficult defense tasks are all good deeds, too. This should be the spirit of society, God willing, and this is the path that we should tread.

Politically speaking, our society is completely independent. As far as basic Islamic structure is concerned, our society is extremely good. Our situation is very good in many respects. But the problem of our society is that our nation is not yet a productive one. Our nation has not yet come to know what the basis of true independence is. It still thinks it can preserve itself only by severing relations. It does not know that by maintaining strong relations and having the upper hand it can show its revolution to the people in a better way. This will be the time when we are not in need. We can demonstrate the good aspects of our revolution to the people when we are not needy.

Praise be to... (providing omitted passage, deleting editorial notation)

Pakistan

Bhutto Doubts No-Confidence Move Against Her

BK3011082389 Islamabad Overseas Service in English 0800 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] The prime minister, Ms Benazir Bhutto, has said the national economy is on the ascendency, which is indicated from the fact that transactions in the stock exchanges have increased by 2 and ½ times, and a record investment outlay for 42 billion rupees has been approved for new schemes.

Talking to newsmen at Lahore Airport this morning, the prime minister said it is wrong to suggest that the political situation in the country was causing a setback to the national economy.

She said a no-confidence motion against the government is part of the political process. However, no such move seems to be on the anvil in the near future in view of certain statements emanating from the opposition leaders.

Answering a question, the prime minister said the resignations of the special assistants and the advisers [to the prime minister] have been accepted and their offices were vacant as well. She said it would take some time before the Federal Cabinet was reshuffled. The prime minister said the PPP [Pakistan People's Party] believes in democracy and has all the honor for opposition parties.

Replying to a question, Ms Benazir Bhutto said combined opposition parties' leaders can meet the president and the prime minister as it is their right.

Has Not Accepted Ministers' Resignations

BK2911154989 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 1500 GMT 29 Nov 89

[Text] The senior federal minister and the Pakistan People's Party leader, Begum Nusrat Bhutto, has said

she has started the process of dialogue with political leaders. She hosted a dinner last night in Karachi for the opposition leaders.

The senior minister told newsmen today in Karachi the present government is giving special attention to strengthening the police force to improve law and order in Sind.

Answering a question, she said prime minister so far has not accepted the resignations of the federal ministers.

Paper Reports President-Prime Minister Impasse

BK2911084589 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 20 Nov 89 pp 1, 8

[By Tariq Butt]

[Text] Islamabad, Nov 19—The one-hour long President-Prime Minister meeting on Saturday in which the issue of appointment of judges to superior courts was discussed is said to have been unable to break the impasse over the matter.

"The Prime Minister mostly restated her position on the issue and so did the President," a knowledgeable source confided to THE MUSLIM on Sunday. "There is no outside-the-court solution in sight, at least for the time being," they said.

It will mean that the hearing on the judges' issues currently going on in the Supreme Court will continue, and the President's decision to file a reference in the Supreme Court on the matter stands unchanged.

Observers feel that there is no flexibility in the stands taken by the President and the Prime Minister. The state of affairs has led to a virtual deadlock, they say.

The President has yet to decide about the timing of filing of a reference, sources say adding that he wants to "place certain facts" before the court pertaining to the "recommendations" made by the federal government for the appointment of certain persons as judges of the superior courts.

Constitutional experts believe that the President can file a reference even when the Supreme Court was hearing the appeal about the appointment of judges. However, the Attorney General has already argued that the President cannot do so unless advised by the Prime Minister.

Sources say the Saturday meeting which was also attended by some law experts focused on the judges matter. The effort of the Prime Minister who called on the President at the Aiwan-e-Sadr [presidential palace], was apparently to see whether the issue could be resolved outside the court.

Even frequent meetings between the President and the Prime Minister during the past three weeks after the noconfidence motion against the Premier was defeated has not yet helped to improve their reported disagreement over several issues. A series of meetings started taking place after a gap of about four months during which some "serious disagreements" occurred between the top two. During this interlude, however, some emissaries kept meeting them separately to pave the way for a face-to-face meeting.

Observers had widely welcomed the frequency of the President-Prime Minister meetings because they felt that a prolonged "communication gap" between the two would further increase the already intense political polarisation.

The federal government has not directly challenged the authority of the President in the Supreme Court to appoint judges. However, it has appealed against a judgement of the Lahore High Court in which the latter had held that the appointment of judges by the President was legal. The issue was first raised in the High Court by a Lahore lawyer, M.D. Tahir, who objected to the appointment of some ad hoc judges of that court.

However, the Federal government has appealed that the President was bound to appoint judges on Premier's advice.

Opposition Criticizes Government Performance

BK3011033289 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 0300 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] The Combined Opposition Parties at their 2-day meeting in Lahore adopted several resolutions. One of the resolutions expressed its concern over the law and order situation in Sind. The other resolutions adopted at the meeting had described 1 year's performance of the federal government as unsatisfactory and criticized direct recruitment in government services.

Yaqub Khan Returns From Libya, Tunisia, Algeria

BK3011040489 Islamabad Domestic Service in English 0300 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] The foreign minister, Sahabzada Yaqub Khan, returned to Karachi this morning after visiting Libya, Tunisia, and Algeria. In a statement on arrival at the airport, he said the visits were aimed at renewing and strengthening relations with the Islamic world through high-level exchanges and forging greater economic, commercial, cultural, and technical cooperation. He said during the talks with the leaders of these countries, there was a common desire to re-invigorate bilateral relations.

The foreign minister said he reviewed international situation during his meetings with the leaders of these countries and discussed ways and means for improving bilateral economic and cultural cooperation. It was agreed that the meeting of the Pakistan-Tunisia joint ministerial commission, which was to be held in Tunisia and was postponed in November at Pakistan's request, will be rescheduled at an early date. He said there was a shared concern in all the three countries about the

situation in Lebanon, and hopes were expressed that it would be possible to implement the tripartite committee's proposals for a settlement. He said all the three countries expressed support to Palestine and for a peaceful and comprehensive settlement in the Middle East.

Sahabzada Yaqub Khan also had discussions with his British counterpart, Mr Douglas Hurd, in London on situation in South Asia, including the Afghanistan problem.

Police Deny Reported Arrest for Zia Air Crash

BK3011030689 Islamabad Domestic Service in Urdu 0200 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] The Punjab inspector general of police has rejected a press report that a clue has been found to the air crash near Bahawalpur on 17 August [in which former president Ziaul Haq was killed]. He told a news conference in Lahore the report is fabricated, as no investigation was conducted by the Punjab police in this regard, nor was any officer of the Inter Services Intelligence [military intelligence wing] arrested.

Daily on Outcome of PRC's Li Peng's Visit

BK2411135589 Karachi DAWN in English 19 Nov 89 p 7

[Editorial: "Ties Reinforced"]

[Text] Premier Li Peng's four-day visit to Pakistan, described by him as a great success, should reinforce bilateral relations between the two countries. It is heartening that the governments in Beijing and Islamabad continue to attach high priority to their friendship which has been described as loftier than the Karakorams and deeper than the Arabian Sea by spokesmen of both sides. The expressions of goodwill and warmth during Mr Li Peng's visit and his negotiations with Pakistani leaders in Islamabad testify to the commitment of the two parties to renew and reinvigorate their mutual understanding. There are several dimensions of their relationship which China and Pakistan have preserved carefully through the decades, changes in international politics notwithstanding. One is the political aspect which has manifested itself in the form of a Sino-Pakistan axis which has been a force to reckon with in South Asia. During the Afghan crisis and earlier when the Soviet-Indian alliance in Asia was operating to the disadvantage of Pakistan, the unwavering support Islamabad received from Beijing was a source of strength for this country. It also came to have a strong impact on the strategic and security environment of this region. Although at his Press conference Mr Li Peng dismissed the question of Chinese support to Pakistan in case of aggression as a hypothetical one, the overall tenor of his statements on Siachen, Afghanistan and Kashmir confirms that Pakistan can continue to rely on Chinese political backing. In this context, it is significant that Pakistan with its close understanding with Beijing might seek to play a mediatory role in easing tensions between China and the US. Following the Chinese Government's crackdown on the demonstrators in Tiananmen Square and the United States' strong reaction to it, relations between the U.S. and China have been strained. It would be in the interest of world peace and in keeping with the general relaxation in the superpower relationship that the creases in the Sino-American relations are ironed out soon.

A measure of the close relations between the two countries is provided by the multifarious ties they have forged in the non-political sector. During Mr Li's visit four agreements were signed envisaging the avoidance of double taxation, grant of an interest-free Chinese loan of 50 million yuan, procurement of road-building machinery for Baluchistan and the supply of Chinese relief goods for Afghan refugees. These agreements are part of the on-going process of cooperation between the two countries. They have so far signed nine protocols on science and technology. Protocols for cultural exchanges have been concluded every two years since 1965 when a cultural agreement was first signed. Of great importance is Prime Minister Li Peng's disclosure on Thursday that as a result of an understanding reached during his visit, China would help build a 300,000 KW nuclear power plant for Pakistan. This will be of far-reaching importance in view of the acute power shortage facing Pakistan and the refusal of the Western powers to sell nuclear reactors to this country for political reasons. Since China will assist in building a nuclear power plant and not sell one to this country, this will give Pakistan greater access to nuclear technology for peaceful uses. Both being members of the IAEA [International Atomic Energy Agency], the two countries will obviously observe the internationally recognised safeguards. They have already signed an agreement for the peaceful use of nuclear technology.

Trade, though still not substantial, has also linked the two countries. The trade turnover being of the order of about Rs. 4.8 billion, China and Pakistan are obviously not satisfied with it. They want to raise it to Rs 8 billion. Given the level of their exchanges in all fields, there is no reason why their trade should lag behind. Since the balance of the current level of trade is heavily tilted against Pakistan, a substantial increase in the two-way exchanges can be expected to correct this tilt to some extent.

Paper on Killings of Muslims; Indian Reaction

BK2511155089 Islamabad THE MUSLIM in English 14 Nov 89 p 4

[Editorial: "Killings Are Not 'Internal' Affairs"]

[Text] As could have been expected, the government of India has in the irascible righteousness typical of New Delhi, rejected out of hand Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto's expression of concern for current happenings centred round the Babri Masjid [disputed shrine in India

claimed by both Hindus and Muslims] controversy. What does, however, make the official Indian response exceptional even by its own standards of wrathful indignation expressed at such occasions, is the shrieking vengeance with which the statement is in this case replete. Perhaps, New Delhi's extraordinary ire has been occasioned by some mistaken notions that a democratic regime at Islamabad could somehow remain unconcerned about a matter which has understandably agitated the minds of the people of Pakistan.

Some of the premises raised by the official Indian spokesman in the retort are much too distastefully ill-imagined to find place in any sensible approach to the conduct of diplomacy. But then, New Delhi, especially in recent years, has hardly been known for its abidance to the norms of rectitude in dealing with internal as also external situations. Notwithstanding such unsavoury aspects of the Indian rejoinder, however, it is unfortunate for the prospects of both the Indian communal question and the Pakistan-India equation that New Delhi has taken such strong umbrage over a most temperate statement issued by Islamabad. Unless New Delhi insists on sticking to the clearly untenable position that whatever a regime does to its national population—including complicity in the systematic massacre of a religious minority—is outside the legitimate concern of the international community, it had no business to take exception to the concerned statement.

Nor can New Delhi deny the existence of the deep links of "kinship, culture and history" which the people of Pakistan have with the Muslim community of India, and in view of which Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto had expressed the deep concern of her government and of the people of Pakistan at "the reprehensible plan of extremist Hindu elements in India" to construct a temple at the site of the Babri Masjid in Ayodhya. Besides, would New Delhi also deny that "it is the responsibility of the government of India" to take effective steps "to put an end to communal killings" and to ensure that the Muslims in India are provided full security of life and property and that the sentiments of the Islamic Ummah are respected? That is the full extent of what New Delhi has proclaimed as "unwarranted interference in the country's internal affairs".

As for India's reference to what it has called the "wilful elimination" of minorities by Pakistan, New Delhi could certainly not have been unaware of the full constitutional and functional security now provided in this country to all religious minorities. Mercifully for the health of our own political culture, minority-bashing is not used by the political parties, including those in power, to win elections. The government of Pakistan has already taken prompt action to deal with certain minor incidents which occurred in some parts of the country in reaction to the killing of Muslims in India.

Stinger-Type Missiles, Other Weapons Produced

BK2411144489 Karachi DAWN in English 21 Nov 89 p 1

[Text] Lahore, Nov 20—Pakistan is manufacturing a highly sophisticated shoulder-fired missile which will be better than the Stinger missile in performance but its cost will be only one-fourth of its rate in the international market, it was learnt through official sources.

This missile will be ready by the middle of next year after which it will be provided to the armed forces, the sources said.

Pakistan is also trying to make anti-tank missiles to bolster the defence capability of the armed forces. A good deal of work has already been done on these missiles and their regular supply to the armed forces will begin within a year.

The sources said that manufacture of various defence equipment locally was a part of the Government policy to achieve self-sufficiency in the field of defence and minimise dependence on imports. Efforts are being made to import only those items which are not possible to produce at home.

Pakistan, it may be pointed out, has already achieved self-sufficiency in small arms and, in fact, is exporting them to other countries. The foreign exchange earned from the export of such arms is used to import sophisticated arms required for national defence.

According to the sources, the time is not far off when Pakistan will have its own multi-barrel rocket launchers, an equipment which is badly needed by the defence forces. The authorities have been trying to import it from various countries but the response has not been very encouraging. Ultimately, Pakistan decided to make its own efforts to solve the problem for good.

Some scientific research institutions have also made considerable contribution in strengthening the country's defence capability. One such institution has developed the capability to recondition missiles while another has succeeded in developing local laser range finders. The local finders have a range of 1,000 metres which can be increased by replacing the transmitters.

Another organisation is developing an anti-tank munition which will be as effective as a radioactive warhead.

The sources hoped that with all these achievements, Pakistan's dependence on imported arms will be reduced considerably.

Sri Lanka

TNA Breaking Up; Normalcy Returns to Amparai

BK3011105189 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0935 GMT 30 Nov 89

["OANA/pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, Nov 30 (LANKAPUVATH)—The illegal Tamil National Army (TNA) comprising the EPRLF [Eelam People's Revolutionary Liberation Front], ENDLF [Eelam National Democratic Liberation Front] and TELO [Tamil Eelam Liberation Organization] cadres in addition to forcibly conscripted boys is breaking up and on the run. The TNA had run away from Amparai which was vacated by IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] on October 25 and yesterday ran away from Batticaloa hard on the heels of their protectors, the IPKF who withdrew its troops from Batticaloa.

Secretary Defence General Sepala Attygalle, said at today's Cabinet news briefing presided by Foreign Minister and Minister of State for Defence Ranjan Wijeratne, that 300 cadres of the illegal TNA had surrendered to the LTTE [LIberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam] while another 84 had surrendered at the Sri Lankan Army camp at Weli Oya in the Trincomalee District. Mr. Wijeratne said that the Sri Lankan police and Armed Forces were now in charge of maintaining law and order in the Batticaloa District in addition to Amparai. He said that no militant would be allowed to carry weapons. Suitable action would be taken by the security forces against anyone irrespective of what group they belong to, violating these regulations.

The Sri Lankan police and Army were now in charge of security in Amparai and Batticaloa. They had earlier been manned by one IPKF division composed of 10,000 men. The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of State for Defence Ranjan Wijeratne, said that life had returned to normal in Amparai. He said his advice to the illegal TNA was to take any remaining cadres out of the area vacated by the IPKF. He appealed to the LTTE not to create any problems in these areas.

General Attygalle stressed that the Citizens Volunteer Force was under the command of the inspector general of police and its members paid by the government.

Meanwhile, informed sources said, the LTTE stepped up its attacks in the north against TNA installations. Two major attacks were launched by the LTTE in the past five days on TNA camps at Pandattarippu and Mathakal. These two areas only 10 miles away from the Jaffna town came under heavy attack and about fifty TNA cadres were killed and their weapons seized.

Yesterday when IPKF men moved out of Batticaloa on their way back to Madras, they took along with them over fifty TNA men who were warded at the Batticaloa Hospital, with wounds sustained in attacks in the Amparai area.

JVP Militants Urged To Surrender Before 4 Dec

BK3011092889 Delhi Domestic Service in English 0830 GMT 30 Nov 89

[Text] The Sri Lankan Government has urged the JVP [Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna] militants to surrender between the 1st of December and the 4th with their weapons and ammunition. A government statement said such persons will be given all assistance and maximum protection. The statement said 2,000 youths had already given themselves up and are being rehabilitated by the government.

Colombo has urged the rebels to surrender in the past, but few have done so. Officials said they expected better results this time because of the loss of the front's leaders.

Communique Issued on Violence in Various Areas

BK3011095489 Colombo LANKAPUVATH in English 0922 GMT 30 Nov 89

["OANA/Pool" item]

[Text] Colombo, 30 Nov (LANKAPUVATH)—The father and mother of a Sri Lankan soldier were hacked to death by unidentified persons at Matara in the Southern Province, yesterday.

A government communique issued today further states that at Hambantota in the same province, unidentified persons set fire to a tractor corporation spare parts shop and a jeep belonging to the Irrigation Department.

A group of gunmen entered the house of K.G. Ariyapala, a businessman, of the same area, fired at the inmates and set fire to the car. Five persons were critically wounded and were admitted to the Matara hospital. Two have succumbed to their injuries.

At Gampaha, Western Province, two armed youth fired at the AGA's [Assistant Government Agent] office, injuring one gramasevaka [rural administrative] officer. The AGA's office was also set on fire at Divulapitiya.

At Ganemulla, police recovered a 12-bore shotgun, a locally-made shotgun and a push cycle.

In the Uva Province, at Badulla, the Ven Girambe Indrasumana, the principal of Welimade madya maha vidyalaya [central high school] succumbed to his injuries at the Welimada hospital, after being shot at by unidentified gunmen.

At Kegalle, security forces arrested six suspects at Thaliyadda and recovered muzzle loading guns.

In the Central Province, at Kandy, police conducting search operations killed one suspected subversive at Heel Oya.

In the North Central Province, at Polonnaruwa, unidentified persons robbed cash and set fire to a cooperative rural shop, cooperative wholesale stores, and a rural bank at Kawdulla. At Palugasdamana, security forces arrested three subversives and recovered 10 shotguns and cartridges. Fifteen suspected subversives were arrested at Ambagahawella, Ampara, Eastern Province. The IPKF [Indian Peacekeeping Force] shot and killed three armed militants at Jaffna, in the northern province, the communique added.